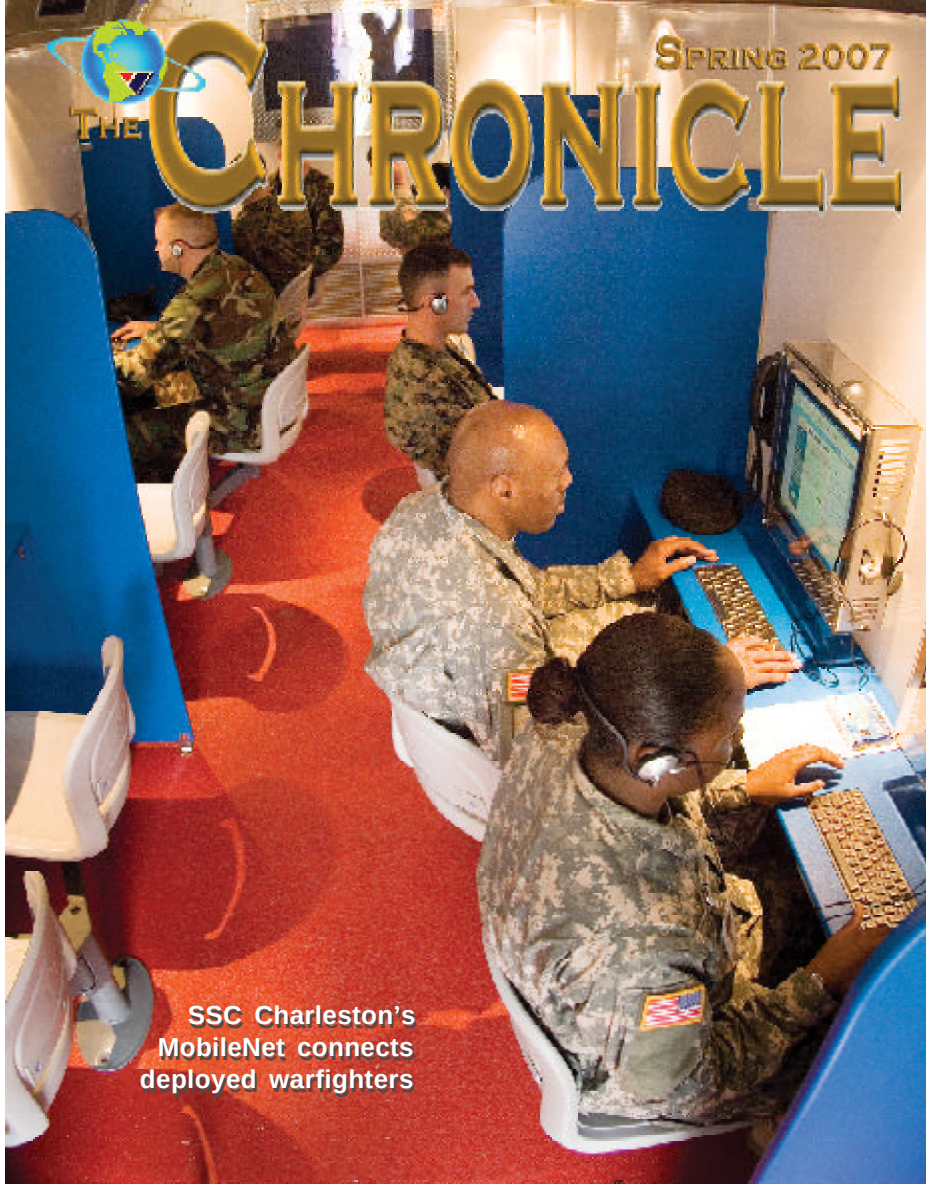
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The Chronicle
SSC Charleston's
MobileNet connects
deployed warfighters

ThinkTEC showcases SSC Charleston's capabilities.
See story on page 30.

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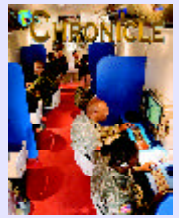

On the cover

SSC Charleston's MobileNet and cyber cafés give warfighters a communications capability unprecedented in the history of warfare. See stories on pages 23 to 26. Photo by Harold Senn.

Loy Stewart congratulates friend Tom Mikolajcik after the Bldg. 3146 dedication ceremony.

SPAWAR
Systems Center Charleston
P.O. Box 190022
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SSC Charleston's Mission
To provide knowledge superiority to naval and joint warfighters and peacekeepers through the development, acquisition and life cycle support of effective, integrated Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) systems.

The Chronicle

Commanding Officer .. Captain Red Hoover
Executive Director ..... James Ward
Editor ..... Susan Piedfort
Photographer ..... Harold Senn

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CAPTAIN'S CALL

CAPTAIN RED HOOVER, USN

SSC CHARLESTON COMMANDING OFFICER

SSC Charleston is moving forward

All, just in case you have not heard, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Guidance for 2007 was released last month. Our CNO continues to emphasize the need to stay "Focused on Execution" by "following through — rapidly execute — on every plan, budget decision, strategy and policy to better defend the American people and our national interests." His Top Five objectives for the Navy are: (1) Provide a Total Naval Workforce capable and optimized to support the national defense strategy; (2) Use the Navy-Marine Corps Team to aggressively prosecute the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT); (3) Build the Navy-Marine Corps force for tomorrow; (4) Emphasize safety by managing risk to improve mission effectiveness and to safeguard the people and resources of the Navy-Marine Corps Team; and (5) Reinforce ethics as a foundation of exemplary conduct within the Department of Navy.

Furthermore, COMSPAWARSYSCOM Rear Adm. Michael Bachmann has released his Commander's Guidance for 2007. They include (1) Execute NNFE chief operating officer (COO) responsibilities in support of fleet, joint and coalition C4ISR and business information technology (IT) objectives; (2) Implement the Competency Aligned Organization – Integrated Product Team (CAO-IPT) organizational construct throughout Team SPAWAR; (3) Institute a systems engineering (SE) technical review process; (4) Execute technical authority (TA) roles, responsibilities and processes; (5) Implement the National Security Personnel System (NSPS); (6) Implement the Navy Enterprise Resource Planning (Navy ERP); (7) Implement Lean Six Sigma (LSS); and (8) Develop Balanced Scorecard (BSC) as an overall performance management framework.

Most of you have completed your NSPS training during the past few months, and the departments have developed their BSCs and are reporting their results to be rolled up to our command BSC. Several LSS events are ongoing to streamline our processes and realize efficiencies. Our Navy ERP Team is conducting town hall meetings for our projected "go-live" in April 2008, and we have selected our Tier 2 competency coordinators to work alongside their competency leads at headquarters. At the same time we are making preparations for the standup of SSC Atlantic. Along that line, SPAWAR Vice Commander Rear Adm. Charles "Grunt" Smith has placed his flag in the Norfolk Tidewater area. It's great to have senior SPAWAR leadership on the East Coast in the middle of our largest fleet concentration.

We made great progress in February in the In-Service Engineering Agent (ISEA) area. Representatives from SPAWAR Headquarters (04C), SSC San Diego and SSC Charleston met in San Diego Feb. 6-8 to update the SPAWAR ISEA strategy. This planning was conducted using the Lean Six Sigma framework, included Black Belt mentoring, and resulted in a formal charter to develop specific, measurable, time-phased goals and a manageable action plan. This planning will help SPAWAR ISEAs provide the right readiness at the right cost. Specifically it will: (1) formalize ISEA roles and responsibilities in their emerging role of end-to-end life-cycle management (2) mature ISEA metrics to better link readiness to cost, (3) standardize and institutionalize common processes across the claimancy, and (4) help Team SPAWAR satisfy system command (SYSCOM) oversight responsibilities outlined in SECNAVINST 5400.15B. Additionally, the ISEA Next Team is facilitating the alignment of SPAWAR ISEA tasks with emerging Naval NETWAR FORCEnet Enterprise (NNFE) and Surface Warfare Enterprise (SWE) initiatives.

Another area in which we are showing great progress is in our facilities. While it's been hard NOT to see (and sometimes hear) the progress of the new engineering building we recently dedicated to Brig. Gen. Tom Mikolajcik (see story on page 10), there are other changes in the works that are not quite so apparent which will affect a great number of our folks in the coming year.

We'll be moving many of our Code 50 employees into the new facility, Bldg. 3146, and we will vacate many of the trailers so they can ultimately be demolished. The present

Continued on page 6

From the desk of

James D. Ward

Executive Director

Telling our story

Our command needs some storytellers. The first thought that will pop in your mind as you read my challenge might be: Writing has never been easy for me, or where could I find the time? If you are a contributor to this work effort and can tell us about it, I'll help you with those concerns.

Four years ago we set out to strengthen our command culture of efficiency, effectiveness and support to the warfighter, and to better equip every member of the SSC Charleston team for future technical and business challenges. To do this, we aligned our training programs to four major future curve competencies: efficient business operations, technology, academics and warfighter support. We've come a long way in four years.

We've seen our training budget grow from $2.4 million to more than $8 million – a huge investment in our most important and only appreciable asset – our people. We've used EVM, performance-based contracts, Lean Six Sigma, CMMI, activity based costing, Balanced Scorecard and many other tools to improve our business competency. We've aggressively pursued our Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) goals, raising the professionalism of our acquisition workforce through education and training, experience and career management.

> *"While the Innovation Program is driving innovation and experimentation to become part of our culture, we need to make 'telling our story' an additional part of that culture."*

Many of our employees have embarked on or continued academic study related to their jobs, and the command has supported them by paying 100 percent of their tuition and books as long as they maintain good grades. We have a highly educated workforce. Fifty-seven percent of our employees hold bachelor's degrees or higher, (as opposed to 41 percent in the entire federal sector, according to the Office of Personnel Management,) and we have 14 employees with doctorate degrees, 18 with post-master's degrees, 260 with master's degrees and 54 with post bachelor's training.

We've increased our competencies in service-oriented architectures, systems engineering, wireless technology, knowledge management and many other important technology and business areas. We send our folks out to sea on ships in the Scientists to Sea program – what better way to learn about your primary customers than to rub elbows with them in their environment?

My goal for us is to have and maintain the most competent and credentialed workforce, one that is the benchmark for government and industry to be measured by. The investment we have made in training and education for our professionals has greatly increased our innovative capital. We've aligned our individual development activities to the overall goals of the Navy and joint leadership. We've increased our competencies and ensured our significance to the warfighter as the end user of our services.

Now we need to tell our story to our professional peers in the worlds of science, technology, engineering and business. We need to include our vital work in the flow of scholarly and professional communication – specialized journals, peer-reviewed publications and conference proceedings. We have started an Innovation Program that is composed of two innovation tracks, business and engineering excellence. We are providing funding grants from $10,000 to $99,999 for innovation in the business and engineering areas.

While the Innovation Program is driving innovation and experimentation to become part of our culture, we need to make "telling our story" an additional part of that culture. We already possess the necessary critical mass of participants – our competent and credentialed workforce. We already have the success stories to tell – cutting edge con-

Continued on next page

Captain Hoover

Continued from page 4

occupants of those trailers will move to several areas within our complex, as well as to the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) building on the old Naval Base. Changes are afoot in our SSC Charleston locations in Norfolk, Va., and Stuttgart, Germany as well. Code 80 employees will see more changes as improvements to V-53 on Norfolk Naval Base continue. We have renovated approximately 15,000 square feet of the building to make it more habitable for the short term. As a result of BRAC actions, more permanent infrastructure improvements are now scheduled to start in FY09 or FY10. (See story on page 13.)

Late last year Code 57 personnel moved up from the basement of Bldg. 3315 to the top two newly renovated floors of Bldg. 3314 on the U.S. Army Garrison in Stuttgart, and they are currently enjoying the difference in their new and improved work spaces. (See story on page 14.)

While I realize that office moves are not really fun for anyone, I ask those of you who are affected to be patient as we make these facilities changes to accommodate our expanding programs and better align our employees. By collocating some operations that are now somewhat fragmented, we will be aligning ourselves for more efficiency and effectiveness, enabling the SSC Charleston team for future success.

As usual, we have a lot going on, much more than what I've mentioned in this article. This is also a great year for bringing in New Professionals fresh out of college. So if you see a new face that might look a little lost, please take the time to be friendly and help mentor our workforce of tomorrow.

Executive Director

Continued from page 5

cepts and processes across various business and engineering disciplines.

As a next step, we are forming a team to help you document your success by writing papers for publication in scholarly and professional journals. The Publish It! Program will utilize the successful Innovation Program model and give you the time, money and assistance you will need to research and draft your papers for publication. This team will run alongside and assist throughout the process, beginning at the author's keyboard and ending in publication. We'll provide the professional expertise needed with editorial aspects, peer review, technical relevance and legal disclaimers.

Why write papers for professional journals? The publishing of papers in academic and professional journals is the most common way that professionals formally communicate with each other concerning their current thinking on new and innovative ideas. Publishing also helps to establish the individual and the command in the professional community, and adds to a career of significance.

You might have a concept paper or abstract, but don't know how to navigate the path to publication. The Publish It! Program will help you refine your idea, write and format a paper and develop a publication strategy. We'll provide the command resources you need. Don't have the time? If you take the interest, we will ensure that you are given the time you need to develop ideas and put them to paper in a finished, publishable format.

Many of you have already written research papers, white papers, conference or professional society presentations, master's theses and doctoral dissertations. There are countless projects underway involving research, development and testing that would lend themselves to discussion in a paper. The program is not limited to technical or academic subjects; it is for everyone. It can involve a process improvement, budget, contracting or logistics. Ask yourself: What have I learned in the last four years that I can use to make a difference in the safety or enablement of the warfighter? There is no limit to the number and breadth of issues that can be addressed.

The global exposure and resulting dialogue and collaboration generated by the publishing of papers will greatly enhance our relevance in the marketplace. Marketing our accomplishments in publishing outlets that have been untapped will spur further research by readers and help us harness new technologies and business processes.

We are fostering a culture of excellence through our Innovation Program, industry partnerships, academic partners in FlightLink, research and development alliances with DARPA, ONR, etc., and participation in conferences and events such as ThinkTEC.

If we overlook the importance of communicating our competencies in our scientific, technology, engineering and business environments, we are missing a great opportunity to show the successful investment we have made in our workforce.

Let's start documenting these efforts to the outside world in highly regarded business and technical journals. What professional journals are you and your peers reading? Let's target those publications. We want to recognize you and your work. By telling our stories of success, we illustrate our competency stock — as well as the return on our training investment.

You'll be hearing more about this effort in the near future. Let's start thinking, and writing, about our accomplishments now.

SPAWARCOM commander revisits SSC Charleston

Commander of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Rear Adm. Michael Bachmann visited SSC Charleston recently for a series of briefs, demonstrations and tours. Bachmann also spoke to the Lowcountry chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA). At right, the admiral throws the first pitch for the Charleston RiverDogs in their April 11 win over the Asheville Tourists at Joseph P. Riley Jr., Park. Pictured below, Bachmann presents the Assistant Secretary of the Navy Financial Management and Comptroller (FM&C) award in accounting to Gary Kaasa (see story on page 35).

Photo by Susan Piedfort

Charleston RiverDogs photo

Antenna answers warfighter need

All named Top Navy Engineer of the Year

Chris All, electronics engineer in Code 541, has been chosen Top Navy Engineer of the Year by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) for his inflatable satellite antenna innovation.

After learning of the operating ground forces' need for a lightweight and easily transportable satellite antenna, All conceived, designed, developed, tested, documented and began limited production of an inflatable satellite antenna which meets operational requirements. All's antenna, which was a project in last year's SSC Charleston innovation program, provides the deployed ground warrior a low-profile antenna that is lightweight, highly portable and can even be used as a pillow when not needed operationally. All is undertaking Phase 2 of the project during this year's innovation program. (See story on next page.)

All and his innovation team conceived the idea, analyzed alternatives, built and tested prototypes and determined that inflatable antennas with appropriately shaped and configured conductive cloth inside were the most portable, durable and affordable solution to replace the more bulky and relatively high-profile satellite antenna currently in use.

Photo by Harold Senn

Chris All

All introduced the new antenna to Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) and the Special Operations Command warfighting communities late last year, and JFCOM demonstrated it at the NATO and Multinational Concept, Development and Experimentation (CDE) conference. All provided prototypes to operational commands in February for experimentation, feedback and ultimately acquisition.

The award citation noted All's innovative spirit, creative mind, determination to succeed and resourceful tactics. As lead test and evaluation engineer on the Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) Airborne Maritime Fixed (AMF) domain, All is responsible for planning and executing testing on preproduction and production systems.

Photo by Harold Senn

SSC Charleston 2007 Innovation Program teams gather in the command briefing theater with Program Manager Al Emondi, far left, second row, following announcement of this year's awardees.

'07 Innovation Program gets underway

After a highly successful inaugural year, the 2007 Innovation Program kicked off with the recent announcement of 13 new or follow-on SSC Charleston projects.

"This program is adding a dimension to this command which has been lacking for a while," said SSC Charleston Executive Director James Ward when announcing the 2007 awardees. "This is what the end user of our services needs," he said.

Part of the command's Balanced Scorecard initiative, the Innovation Program is answering the strategic objective of accelerating innovation and experimentation within SSC Charleston.

"We pay you to do your job, but not for your ideas," Ward said. "You have to volunteer and be willing to share those, and that's what our innovators are doing. You are doing something here that is really making a difference."

Ward praised the efforts of Al Emondi, chief scientist/CTO in Code 50E, in getting the program off the ground last year and continuing its success in 2007.

"We are just beginning to exploit the capabilities of the Innovation Program," Emondi said. "And we learned lessons last year which we rolled into this year's program. We changed the application format to guide applicants to provide critical information that was missing in last year's proposals, the criteria for evaluation has changed to become more objective and measured, and the overall application guidelines were updated to reflect our recent thinking," he explained.

The Innovation Program encourages the values of research, exploration, invention and originality which are central to SSC Charleston and its engineering and business development. It is designed to fuel the creative juices of the SSC Charleston workforce and ultimately result in improved support to the warfighters.

"In the next few years I envision a significant increase in our engineering excellence and an improvement to how we socialize that work with our peers both within and outside our organization, " Emondi said. "To me the Innovation Program is part of the fuel that helps us build the bigger picture that we are striving for."

Fifty-nine proposals in the business excellence and engineering excellence innovation tracks were reviewed by the Systems Engineering Group (SEG)/ Science and Technology Group (STG). The SSC Charleston Management Steering Group (MSG) then recommended the Business Board issue grants for selected projects, and the Business Board awarded funding ranging from $10,000 to $99,000. All funds awarded in this year's program must be expended by Sept. 30, 2007. The SEG/STG monitors the innovation effort and reports progress to the MSG.

And the new innovators, projects are ...

Inflatable MUOS and UHF SATCOM Antenna for use with Handheld and Small Form Factor Radios - Phase 2; Principal Investigator: Chris All.

DoD Evaluation of MANET Operational Networks - DEMON Tactical Wireless Network Technology: Heterogeneous Mobile ad hoc NETwork (MANET) Test & Analysis; Principal Investigator: Jamin Barnett.

Assessing Sailor-System Interfaces of the Common System Functions Employed Within FORCEnet Engagement Packs; Principal Investigator: Kevin Charlow.

Virtual Interactive Cryptologic-Knowledge Intelligence Expert (VICKIE); Principal Investigator: David Coldren.

Project-Based Situational Awareness; Principal Investigator: Scott Crellin.

Modeling SOA Service Discovery Technologies at the Tactical Edge; Principal Investigator: Bradley Crosby.

Service-Oriented Desperado Architecture (SODA); Principal Investigator: John Cutter.

Metal Plate Lens Antenna for SATCOM; Principal Investigator: Andrew Fulford.

Distributed Alerts Dissemination Backbone; Principal Investigator: Derik L. Pack.

An Acoustic Data Processing Accelerator Exploiting Sound Indexed Databases to Advance the Automation of Acoustic Analysis Using a Modified "Query by Humming;" Principal Investigator: Robert Regal.

Multi-Touch Collaboration and Battlespace Visualization Environment; Principal Investigator: Robert Regal.

Dynamic Federated Identity; Principal Investigator: Michael A. Ramirez.

Research and Testing of the Implementation of IPv6 over a Mobile WiMAX (IEEE 802.16e) Wireless Network; Principal Investigator: Andrew Tash.

Monitoring and Measurement Research, Analysis and Recommendations for SPAWAR Services/Projects; Principal Investigator: Peter Ward.

'06 innovation receives follow-on funding

One of the 13 original 2006 SSC Charleston innovation projects, the chip scale atomic clock (CSAC)/Next Generation IFS, has received follow-on funding from Lockheed Martin.

A Navy Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) has been approved and put in place to continue the initial innovation project. Principal investigator Robert W. Miller of Code 60 and his team are adapting this technology for the Trident submarine program.

This program of record is in the process of a redesign for all the navigation equipment to move to the Missile Control Center. The program is evaluating the possibility of adapting Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) CSAC program elements into the Next Generation time standard.

The project involves integrating advances from the DARPA initiative into an existing Trident program's Internal Frequency Standard (IFS) and also leveraging its results into other areas in the Department of Defense (DoD). "We are innovatively trying to merge both cutting edge technology with mature and reliably proven circuits and design techniques to get the same system level performance with a fraction of the cost," Miller said. "All while we are achieving a more robust design for the warfighter.

"We hope to prove that our innovative goal can be achieved and that we can leverage this technology to other programs to give our warfighter a supreme advantage in the war against terror," Miller added.

Advancements in current time standard technology, especially in solid state and miniaturization, have made it possible to shrink a cesium beam tube physics package from a full size rack mounted standard, comparable to the size of a large thermos, down to the size of a pencil eraser. DARPA has taken on management responsibilities for the research and development of this miniature, low power, timing reference.

Precision time is important in the Trident submarine world because of the inherent nature of submarines' mission. The Trident is required to go long periods of time underwater without external fixes from GPS time tics. This is also related to the accuracy of the nuclear weapon system. Reliability is also a very important component of this program due to its tactical nature.

Currently, the team is also investigating other emergent atomic time standard technologies as well as advanced analytical mathematic techniques to improve overall accuracy and reliability. They have also looked into other areas for additional program elements/requirements, including timing distribution and requirements for Trident D5 backfit, atomic standards investigated, cesium fountains, hydrogen masers, cesium, rubidium, crystal oscillators, mercury ion standards, ultra-high stability microwave oscillators, chip scale atomic clocks, frequency converters and amplifiers, hydrogen maser and cesium stability performance, rubidium stability performance and formulating innovative concepts to establish lower life cycle cost.

Milolajcik surveys the scene from the podium as he prepares to speak at the dedication ceremony. Photos by Harold Senn

Bldg. 3146 dedicated to Mikolajcik

The Mikolajcik Engineering Laboratory Center was dedicated March 16 in honor of Brig. Gen. Tom Mikolajcik (USAF, Ret.), a son of Polish immigrants who has been described as "a true patriot in every sense of the word."

More than 400 friends, colleagues and admirers gathered in what will be an administrative area of the facility currently under construction by Sauer Inc., to mark the official dedication of the 57,625-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility. On hand were elected officials, flag officers, community leaders, Charleston area military commanders, dignitaries and SSC Charleston employees. In addition to Mikolajcik and his wife Carmen, attendees included their grown children Julia, Christina and John, two sons-in-law and seven grandchildren; former U.S. Sen. Ernest Frederick "Fritz" Hollings; S.C. Governor Mark Sanford; U.S. Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.); Gen. Duncan McNabb, commander of the U.S. Air Force Air Mobility Command; SSC Charleston Commanding Officer Capt. Red Hoover and SSC Charleston Executive Director James Ward.

"This building will replace 10 modular buildings and house more than 200 people. It represents a powerful enhancement of our capability to put tools in the hands of the warfighter," Hoover said.

"This building is not so much about brick and mortar but about honoring a great leader," said Ward. "General Mikolajcik's optimism is contagious. He is the kind of person you want to be around. I have learned so much from him, and I want to say thank you to a great 'boss' and a great friend."

DeMint recalled meeting with Mikolajcik before he became a U.S. senator. "Gen. Tom insisted I come to SSC Charleston and learn everything I could about what you do here. He was totally nonpartisan; he just wanted to make sure that if I won the election, I would know what I needed to know. He has made me a better senator, and he's made Charleston and South Carolina a better place to live," DeMint said. "He represents the core values of the U.S. Air Force: integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do."

McNabb noted that Mikolajcik was wing commander at Charleston when the C-17 aircraft was brought in. The C-17 — with its large carrying capacity and operational flexibility — has been praised as a critical weapon in the war on global terrorism. "He saw the future and made things happen," said McNabb. "Who else but Tom Mikolajcik, an Air Force guy, would have a building dedicated to him on a Navy base?"

Not originally scheduled to be a part of the ceremony, Sanford made a special trip to SSC Charleston to honor Mikolajcik. Noting that his father died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Sanford praised not only Mikolajcik's many contributions as a patriot, but his personal example of courage and dignity since his ALS diagnosis. "Thank you for the way you are living your life, thank you for the way you are an inspiration to all of us to live as courageously as you do," Sanford said.

Taking his turn to speak, Mikolajcik said he was deeply honored and humbled by the ceremony, and extended a special thanks to Hoover and Ward. "Everything SPAWAR does is leading edge and first class, and that's attributed to the leadership of Captain Hoover and James Ward," he said.

At left, Mikolajcik chats with former U.S. Sen. Ernest "Fritz" Hollings before the ceremony. Below, the general watches and SSC Commanding Officer Red Hoover applauds as two of the Mikolajcik grandchildren cut the cake.

Noting the presence of U.S. Navy Band Southeast from Jacksonville, Fla., and the long-standing traditions of naval ceremonies, Mikolajcik said he was thrilled to be "piped aboard" for the first time. After thanking the dignitaries present, Mikolajcik had a special message to the neighbors, friends and family who have supported him since his ALS diagnosis. "It is hard to express in words what your friendship and support have meant to me through all the challenges we have faced," he said.

> *"The men and women of SSC Charleston are pushed to new heights of excellence on a continuous basis. Our government agencies are better equipped and our warfighters are far better equipped than their enemies in the global war on terrorism thanks to your efforts."*
>
> **- Brig. Gen. Tom Mikolajcik USAF, Retired**

Acknowledging his friend Loy Stewart, he said, "We are both members of an elite club neither of us ever wanted to join: we both have ALS. We can't play golf," he said to Stewart, "but we can watch it, and we can reminisce about playing golf. We've told many, many golfing stories. We've been on the Ravenel Bridge in our wheelchairs. I wanted Loy to race me across it, but he said it wouldn't look good for an ex-Navy enlisted guy to beat a retired general," he said, adding, "But he beat me anyway. Loy says never, never, never give up, and we won't."

To the men and women of SSC Charleston Mikolajcik said, "You have an enormous challenge in enabling our warfighters engaged in the global war on terrorism. You do it better, and more cost effectively than any other engineering facility in the world. That's why your customers come back again and again and again," he said.

Lastly, Mikolajcik turned to his family. He noted the joy of being with his seven grandchildren, two of whom were born in the last year. "When I found out there were two more 'in the hangar,' I didn't know if I would be here to see them when they were born," he said, "but praise God, I was. I cherish every moment we have."

He thanked his three children for "shouldering the heavy burdens of this relentless disease with compassion and dignity. I couldn't ask for three better children or two better sons-in-law," he said.

To his wife Carmen he said, "You have put up with me for nearly 30 years, plus two years we courted.

"When I first retired," he told the audience, "she said I was staying home too much. She said she married me for better or worse, but not for lunch.

"I cherish and love every moment I have with you," he added, as his wife was presented a dozen roses signifying their seven grandchildren, three children and two sons-in-law.

A 1969 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Mikolajcik served on active duty 27 years, logging more than 4,000 flight hours, visiting 70 countries and flying a C-141 transport plane during the Cold War. He flew missions in Vietnam, commanded a C-130 wing in Rhein Main, Germany during Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and was

Continued on next page

The Milolajcik family and dignitaries gather around the plaque unveiled in the March 16 ceremony.

Continued from page 11

commander of the 437th Airlift Wing at Charleston Air Force Base from 1991 to 1994, when the C-17 aircraft was brought to the base. His final active duty assignment was as director of transportation for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Headquarters Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Retiring to Charleston in 1996, Mikolajcik served as an advisor to the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce Military Relations Policy Council, and led the chamber's Defense Issues Task Force during the 2005 round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) deliberations. Despite receiving a diagnosis of ALS in 2003, Mikolajcik worked tirelessly from 2003 to 2005 to promote and protect the unique capabilities of Charleston's military complex. His efforts have been described as instrumental in avoiding major BRAC cuts to South Carolina military facilities in 2005.

Since announcing his ALS diagnosis publicly in 2005, Mikolajcik has devoted much of his attention to raising awareness of the disease and improving the quality of life of those stricken with ALS and their families. Thanks to his efforts a new ALS chapter was formed in South Carolina, and a new MUSC Interdisciplinary ALS clinic established in Charleston, the only of its kind in the state.

Despite the changes in his life brought on by the disease in the last few years, Mikolajcik has remained deeply involved in community and military activities, and still lives by a creed he acquired in the military: "You lead, you follow, or you get out of the way." As Sanford has observed, Mikolajcik is leading "a true life of service before self."

Work conducted by SSC Charleston scientists and engineers in the structure that bears Mikolajcik's name will focus on meeting the needs of the warfighter as well as the demands of our country's national response mission. The new building will allow consolidation of several engineering divisions currently spread out across the SSC Charleston campus. The facility will provide more flexible office and lab space and will enable efficient teaming by collocating like work together.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

Excerpts ...

"The true measure of a man or woman is not how they react when times are good, but how they react when times are tough. From that perspective General Tom Mikolajcik is a huge inspiration."

- S.C. Governor Mark Sanford

"When I first started to run for the Senate, everyone kept telling me I needed to 'go see General Tom.' I heard that so much, I thought his last name was 'Tom.' When we finally met, he set about to make sure I knew what had to be done, what the strengths of our military complex were, and all the infrastructure that was already in place. He wanted to make sure I knew everything I needed to know. When he walked around Charleston Air Force Base, it was clearly ***his*** *base. Everyone treated him like he was still the guy in charge, not a retired former commander."*

- U.S. Senator Jim DeMint (R-S.C.)

"We owe a special honor to those like General Mikolajcik who take the lead. He is a great American and a true hero. He has approached his battle with ALS with the same energy and optimism for which he has long been admired."

- Gen. Duncan McNabb, USAF

"When I served on the appropriations committee there was a big push to cancel the C-17 program. We decided to ask then-Secretary of Defense Bill Perry to come to Charleston to check out the C-17s. Perry got into the cockpit with Tom Mikolajcik, and I got in the navigator's seat. We took off, and all the while Tom is telling him the C-17 is the finest plane in the Air Force. He let Perry bank the plane and steer it so he could see for himself how facile the C-17 is. By the time we left the base that day, Perry's mind was made up. We never heard one more argument against the C-17 program."

- Former U.S. Sen. Ernest "Fritz" Hollings

Norfolk Bldg. V-53 transformation in progress

From Tom Calogrides, Code 823

SPAWAR's presence on Naval Base Norfolk is going through a major transformation to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its workforce and upgrade the professional image of Team SPAWAR.

As noted by SSC Charleston Executive Director James Ward "the quality of our facilities and work environment are indicative of the quality of the work that we can be expected to perform." Building V-53 is a vintage building which was built in the early 1940's as a warehouse to support the Naval Air Station, Naval Air Rework Facility and Depot. This extremely sturdy historical building has a great deal of charm as well as significant deficiencies that were sorely in need of correction.

SSC Charleston's Code 80 occupies personnel spaces on the second and third floors, with Forcenet Composable Environment (FnCE) on the third floor; laboratories, integration, test and check-out facilities and server rooms on the third floor; and training rooms on the second and third floors. Naval Network Warfare Command's (NNWC) Trident Warrior Execution Center is also located on the third floor.

The dispersion of personnel, equipment and technical facilities throughout the building significantly reduces productivity as well as opportunities for interaction and collaboration between diverse technical team members. The need to alleviate many of these deficiencies and to create Advanced Collaborative Engineering (ACE) environments set the foundation for the transformation of Team SPAWAR in V-53.

In an effort to inject greater efficiency and productivity into SPAWAR team members, and to improve the command's professional image in the Virginia Tidewater area, Code 80 Department Head Jennifer Watson initiated an ambitious upgrade project to remedy the most serious deficiencies. The funds were received in late summer with the mandate that the contracts needed to be awarded and the work had to be started by Sept 30. Frank Fender and I undertook an intense effort to meet those constraints. The $550,000 project was awarded Sept. 27 and demolition work started Sept. 28.

The major project objectives specified by Watson included consolidating SSC Charleston Code 80 personnel in the building to the third floor, collocating all branch members and their supervisors in close proximity on the same floor, and improving quality of life issues such as open plan office configuration, lighting, HVAC, daylight harvesting, human factors issues, removal of hazardous materials and noise reduction. Watson also aimed to develop state-of-the-art laboratories, a server room, and systems integration facilities to showcase the code's technical expertise and to develop advanced collaborative multifunctional engineering spaces to support experimentation, naval exercises and technology demonstrations.

Photo by Harold Senn

V-53 was built in the early 1940s as a warehouse.

Renovations for the first two phases (CPP-1 and CPP-2) were completed in early January and personnel have transitioned into the new spaces. The construction phase required multiple temporary moves for some employees, but the benefits are now greatly appreciated. The new spaces are laid out to provide greater efficient use of the area and to enable greater flexibility to support emergent or surge mission requirement. The first advanced collaborative engineering environment (CPP-2) was turned over Sept. 26 and supports the DECA program, navigation systems and experimentation. Each workstation/cubicle is equipped with an extremely flexible cable plant to support multiple data and telephone drops as well as collaborative work surfaces to elicit technical interactions.

The final phases of the project (CPP-3) include three areas that are critical for projecting advanced technical capabilities (i.e. Advanced Collaborative Engineering (ACE) laboratory; systems integration, test and checkout center; and the leading edge experimentation, fleet exercise support and advanced concept technical demonstration (ACTD) center.) Phase 3 demolition work started March 5 with a period of performance of 60 days.

The project has been managed and executed primarily on a "self help" basis due to the limited facility funding and the restrictions of CPP funding utilization. In addition to Frank Fender and myself, key members of the execution team include Dale Foster, Todd Wells, John Luttrell and Rick Simmons.

Out of the basement and into new spaces

Photos by Matthew Drobnik

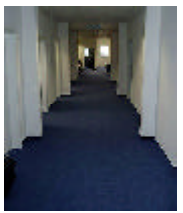
Bldg. 3314 on board the U.S. Army Garrison in Stuttgart, Germany is the new home of SSC Charleston personnel, who inhabit the third and fourth floors of the building.

When SSC Charleston personnel working at the U.S. Army Garrison in Stuttgart, Germany needed to move out of the basement of Bldg. 3315 they were happy. A command review had identified unpleasant odors, there was water leakage, poor circulation and the offices had no windows.

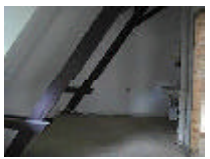
When the third and fourth floors of Bldg. 3314 were identified as the new spaces for the approximately 40 government and contractor workers, they were not happy. The "new" spaces needed new carpet, walls, air conditioning, doors, furniture, phones and paint.

But thanks to the efforts of the SSC Charleston facilities office, they moved into their newly renovated spaces in early December last year, and they are happy again. After a visit by SSC Charleston Facilities Manager Wayne Pannullo, estimates were made for the renovations and in July Capt. Red Hoover gave the go-ahead for the work. Five months later they were settling in their "new" building, and things are working out great.

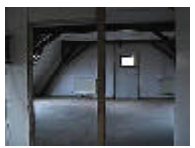
"I know I speak for everyone here," wrote Code 571 Branch Head Matthew Drobnik to Hoover, "when I thank you for moving us out of our basement confines and into the light of day."

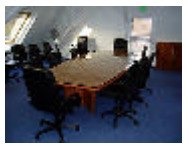


Third floor hallway to offices, before (above) and after (right)

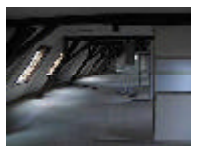


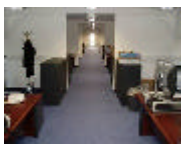
Kitchen area, before (above) and after (right)





Conference room before (above left) and after (above right)





Fourth floor before (above left) and after (above right)

Facilities upgrades + personnel moves = speed to capability to the warfighter

Change is ongoing all around SSC Charleston. In addition to Navy Enterprise Resources Plan (ERP), Competency Aligned Organization (CAO), and the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), a series of facilities moves are also in the works.

The moves require thinking into the future, working together to maintain customer commitments and the physical task of packing and relocating. The series of moves planned over the next two years will benefit SSC Charleston by providing the capacity and capability needed to continue providing agile, responsive support to the warfighter well into the future. These moves will enable teaming between branches, divisions and departments by collocating like work together.

Code 50

Future moves will allow Code 50 to make a giant leap ahead to the future state by combining submarine communications, network engineering and RF communications programs into large, adaptable spaces. Personnel and labs supporting common functions and programs will be moved into larger, more flexible office and lab spaces.

Consolidation into Bldg. 3112 will merge submarine/VLF communications work from five current locations into one building, including bringing a lab from Annapolis, Md., to Charleston. This will allow the collocation of submarine equipment with submarine mock-ups.

Personnel who support the Submarine Communications Support System (SCSS) and Common Submarine Radio Room (CSRR) in five separate buildings across the Charleston campus, plus the submarine communications lab facility, will be consolidated into the building. This will better align personnel who accomplish alteration and installation work for Code 532 and those who accomplish technically-based tasking through In-Service Engineering in Code 531. The end result will be a more knowledgeable work force to support the fleet's needs.

The future lab efforts for CSRR involve the design and construction of a reconfigurable radio room which would mimic the various platform variants. Although the equipment for CSRR is common across submarine classes, specific mission requirements necessitate slight variation among classes. Building 3112 allows the consolidation of lab facilities to maximize the efficiency of assets such as personnel, test equipment, antennae and facilities. In addition, the lab facilities will allow almost immediate simulation of shipboard conditions to promote efficient resolution of problems a warfighter may experience while underway. The lab facilities would also provide an environment to allow integration and testing of future submarine radio room systems.

Code 50 will also consolidate networks engineering division work from eight different locations to Bldg. 3146, while maintaining two smaller satellite labs to support unique testing requirements. This consolidation collocates Code 70's information assurance (IA) and computer networks defense (CND) lab capabilities.

This move also allows SSC Charleston to integrate various network systems and related programs in order to build the "equipment strings" representative of the systems of systems that are currently located on board U.S. ships, submarines and shore stations. The lab also contains networks used for coalition and joint operations. The integrated lab facility allows rapid re-configuration of systems to accurately represent any ship class or shore configuration currently used in the fleet.

As the Navy and DoD seek reduced manpower and overall costs, SSC Charleston's network systems lab will be instrumental in the test and evaluation of emerging technologies being developed by industry or other government labs. The rapid integration and testing of these new capabilities is essential to providing "speed to capability" in a cost effective environment.

Continued on page 17

From left, Joe Nitz of SSC Charleston Code 63B, Teri Lesicko of SAGE Systems Technologies, UEC Owner Rebecca Ufkes, Executive Director James Ward and Marc Pipkin of Code 633 gather following a recent award ceremony honoring Ufkes.

Photo by Susan Piedfort

MTAPP celebrates first 'graduate'

SSC Charleston mentors, assists local manufacturing firm in Navy program

A Hanahan, S.C.-based small business was honored recently as the first to complete SSC Charleston's Manufacturing Technical Assistance Production Program-The Next Generation (MTAPP-TNG).

MTAPP-TNG was chartered by the Navy to provide technical assistance and expertise to manufacturing-related small businesses, with the goal of making them more successful in bidding on government contracts and more competitive in the global marketplace. SSC Charleston was awarded $1.9 million to execute the federally-funded program in 2004, and partnered with SAGE Systems Technologies, LLC, in the effort.

UEC Electronics, LLC, the first MTAPP-TNG participant in SSC Charleston's program, was honored recently as the first "graduate."

Teri Lesicko, SAGE program manager who was a mentor to UEC Owner Rebecca Ufkes under MTAPP-TNG, called the experience beneficial and rewarding for all. She praised the numerous accomplishments of Ufkes and the UEC team during the last two years.

UEC became 8(a)-certified in six weeks, Lesicko said, adding that she knows of no one who has received this certification so rapidly. "8(a)" refers to a section of the Small Business Act and is a Small Business Administration program created to help small, disadvantaged businesses compete in the American economy and access the federal procurement market.

The UEC team also successfully completed training to become a C4 contractor and became a prime contractor. UEC is entering into a protégé agreement with Raytheon, won a sole source contract from Warner Robins Air Force Base and underwent a Lean Six Sigma manufacturing exercise. In addition, their accounting system was approved by the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA), but the icing on the cake for UEC, Lesicko said, was the recent award of a $3 million indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity (IDIQ) contract with SSC Charleston's Code 71.

"I am very proud of Rebecca and her team," Lesicko said. "In less than two years she went from just thinking about the program to winning a $3 million contract. MTAPP-TNG will sustain and grow her company for the future."

Ufkes noted that while UEC had 10 years of success as a commercial supplier, she knew there were opportunities for growth as a government supplier. Unfortunately, learning how to break into in the federal procurement market, she said, was overwhelming.

"MTAPP has been a phenomenal experience, showing us how to set goals and strategies for success. We did it step by step," Ufkes said. "It's been an incredible two years, and the experience has completely energized my team."

Ufkes said UEC's accomplishments in the last two years would not have been possible without MTAPP-TNG. "It's been a pleasure to work with SPAWAR and the SAGE team," she added. "It has made all the difference for this company. We will continue to build on our success."

"Charleston was the right place to do this," said SSC Charleston Executive Director James Ward, "because we have a business model that promotes agility, cost effectiveness and capability to the warfighter. This program allows us to connect small business differently than in the past, based on capacity, capability and the expertise that exists," he said

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

MTAPP-TNG: Helping small business

The Manufacturing Technical Assistance Production Program - The Next Generation (MTAPP-TNG) is managed and administered by SSC Charleston with the mission to support DoD initiatives by developing a national network of technically competent small businesses.

To accomplish this, MTAPP-TNG provides technical assistance, training resources and skilled personnel to enhance and improve the manufacturing and operational processes and procedures of small businesses. Building capabilities that drive business value is the focus of these technical assistance efforts.

MTAPP-TNG helps small businesses become viable suppliers with the appropriate infrastructure and processes needed to integrate into supply chains supporting the DoD. This includes helping small businesses implement best manufacturing industry practices, review and improve financial systems, access Web-based training courses to enhance manufacturing capabilities, focus on adding value to their manufacturing and operations systems and enhance response to customer needs. Participating small businesses undergo a comprehensive assessment of current manufacturing and business operations and undertake a detailed 24-month continuous improvement plan.

MTAPP-TNG helps prime contractors and government buyers access strategically important small business suppliers and subcontractors who have been prequalified, thereby reducing the government's cost of doing business with small manufacturers.

Facilities improvements

Continued from page 15

The lab move will provide connectivity to all SSC Charleston lab facilities in Charleston; Tampa, Fla.; Norfolk, Va.; Washington, D.C.; and Patuxent River, Md.; allowing leading edge network systems to be tested with existing and developmental applications and radio systems. This connectivity extends past SSC Charleston, via wide area networks (WANs), to SPAWAR HQ, PEO C4I, SSC San Diego, NAVSEA Systems Centers, NAVAIR warfare centers and joint centers. These capabilities make support for end-to-end (E2E) testing a reality and the preferred method of testing in the future.

Future moves will continue Code 50's consolidation of RF communications efforts into Complex D.

Code 60

Facilities moves in the next two years open a range of possibilities for the the Command and Control (C2) Systems Department.

The Tactical C2 Engineering Division, Code 61, will see the biggest changes, with most personnel moving from "project-specific" small buildings into Bldg. 198, currently occupied by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) on the old naval base. This new environment will provide the lab footprint needed for critical engineering and product support efforts for Navy, Marine Corps and other government sponsors. Administrative space for divisional personnel will allow interaction as a single group. Marine Corps efforts in Codes 61 and 71 will be integrated and located in this new building.

The Enterprise C2 Engineering Division, Code 63, will gain much needed lab space in the Enterprise C2 lab planned for Bldg. 3112. This will bring capabilities in application development and support, service-oriented architectures, video-display and command centers into one cohesive environment. SSC Charleston's FBI support will be enhanced by relocating lab efforts from Bldg. 237 on the old naval base to a larger, more capable environment in Bldg. 198. Efforts supporting the medical health community will be collocated with similar Code 70 efforts in Bldg. 3113, allowing teaming and improving the level of service across the board for the medical community.

The Aviation C2 Engineering Division, Code 66, will complete its expansion into the remainder of the buildings on Complex E, moving into Bldg. 3440. This increases capabilities to support U.S. Central Command Air Forces (CENTAF) in its critical warfighting mission. The move will also relieve some of the administrative space needed to respond to rapid personnel growth in Code 66.

Code 70

Continued growth in Code 70 has exceeded the current facility capacity. Future moves will increase capacity for administrative seating due to an increase of personnel, and will increase lab capacity for exponential growth in network and information assurance requirements and for expeditionary work with key industry partners.

It will also increase lab capacity for Antiterrorism and Force Protection (ATFP) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) work, increase capacity for information warfare and exploitation lab space, and collocate major programs such as medical health systems and expeditionary vehicle work. It will collocate major programs by functionality (crypto) and by capability (medical health.)

- from staff reports

CASREP Crusaders strike again

The CASREP Crusaders continued their Lean Six Sigma (LSS) assault on waste and inefficiency with a recently completed effort to upgrade and reorganize the workspace of Ray Womac, the command CASREP reviewer.

The purpose of this work was to create and maintain an organized, clean, safe and high-performance workplace with a targeted 30 percent reduction in CASREP processing time. Based on current labor rates, that reduction translated to a savings goal of over $30,000 annually.

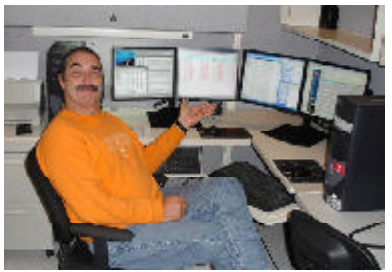
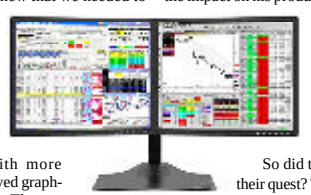


Photo by Lt. Brian Phillips

Ray Womac shows off his new workspace resulting from LSS 6S effort.

This project, like other LSS events, required a charter and entry-exit criteria to develop, document and communicate the purpose and parameters. The team, led by Lt. Cmdr. Dean Barsaleau, organized this "Just Do It" endeavor using the DMAIC model (define, measure, analyze, improve and control) and by the Six Sigma (6S) building blocks, sort, straighten, shine, standardize, safety and sustain.

"The use of a structured approach focused around the DMAIC model and 6S really helped us define our objectives and build on our previous work," Barsaleau remarked. "This methodology helped us stay focused and was one of our keys to success. We already knew that we needed to get Ray better tools to eliminate the waste we identified in our previous Lean event. We used this 6S to implement those improvements and then verify that we achieved the savings we predicted." he said.



Zen view dual monitors used in LSS event.

Workspace improvements included the upgrade of Womac's two computer workstations with more memory, a larger hard drive, improved graphics card and dual screen monitors. The unclassified upgrades were all accomplished within the scope of the NMCI technical refresh, while the classified upgrades were procured using normal procurement procedures. Lt. Brian Phillips, who led the upgrade effort, said, "We explored several alternative solutions for Ray including GFE procurements, NMCI contract line item number (CLIN) changes and NMCI technical refresh. After running the numbers, we found that our new hardware solutions not only vastly improved the CASREP data entry process and Ray's quality of work, they also cost much less over the anticipated lifecycle than Ray's old suboptimized configuration," Phillips said. "It was a no-brainer."

While the team used the hardware upgrades to capture process improvements, the team used 6S to optimize the rest of Womac's workspace. This methodical effort involved identifying and removing unneeded items (sort), arranging items to best support the workflow (straighten), cleaning and dusting (shine), eliminating hazards (safety) and establishing consistent steps for work activities (standardize). To sustain this effort, the team created a radar chart to track progress relative to ideal conditions. Throughout the project, the team relied heavily on the preestablished exit criteria to measure progress and the counsel of the team's LSS Black Belt Karen Brewer, who remarked, "It was amazing watching the 6S transformation of Ray's workspace and seeing the impact on his productivity once the right tools and configuration were in place.

"Each step in the DMAIC process illustrated the benefits of taking a methodical approach to improving his whole environment. The efficiency gained in this effort was well worth the financial investment," Brewer said.

So did the CASREP Crusaders succeed in their quest? The team's analysis verified that the hardware upgrades, which required initial and recurring costs totaling $3,518 over a three-year period, cut CASREP processing time by 37 percent and achieved cost avoidance of almost $38,000 annually.

Continued on next page

LSS improves personnel action process

Thanks to the efforts of an SSC Charleston team's Lean Six Sigma (LSS) event, personnel hiring actions are now completed using a more streamlined, cost effective process.

The Personnel Actions LSS Event 1 Team reduced the time required for processing personnel hiring actions and identified a possible annual savings of $976,000.

The personnel action process has grown over time to include a laborious combination of administrative and operational requirements placed upon hiring managers. Workforce development has become a major focus area of SSC Charleston's Human Capital Management Strategy (HCMS) outlined in SPAWAR's Enterprise Strategic Plan 2005-2010 and of the SSC Charleston Commander's Intent as part of the command's overall business strategy. The goal of hiring the right people with the right skills to do the right work at the right time touches nearly every aspect of the new government service culture.

A 14-person team led by Lisa Pass and Pamela Bell and composed of Eleanor Aldrich, Renee Boltin, Ashley Brown, Donna Buckler, Sherry Chamberlin, Kathleen Howard, Gertrude Lawrence, Stacy McClain, David Monahan, Zoe Rhorer, Paulette Shiell and Nadine Wilson was formed to examine the personnel actions process.

The team identified a two-fold challenge: to fully understand the current amount of documentation required to execute a hiring action and the review/approval actions deemed necessary, and to eliminate redundant information and processes while enhancing the knowledge of the hiring managers.

The LSS event was held June 3-7, 2005, with a cross-functional team of administrative officers, administrative specialists, personnel management advisors and assistants, and the head of the Workforce Development Branch. The mission was to increase the efficiency of processing personnel actions submitted to the Civilian Personnel Support Division (CPSD). The problem/opportunity presented was to provide a single method for preparing and processing personnel actions submitted to the CPSD by hiring managers.

The team identified a full range of processes and value streams and reduced the list of process steps to three value-added steps. First, they identified the requirement -- a hiring manager or project manager's hiring need and preparation of the list of duties and knowledge/skills/abilities (KSAs) required. Then, the hiring manager or project manager identification of recruitment source(s) from which a certificate of viable candidates may be obtained by the Human Resources Service Center-Southeast (HRSC-SE), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), or in-house resources. Lastly, the hiring action is executed and the CPSD brings the qualified candidate on board in a timely manner. This last process will be investigated further in a follow-on LSS event.

The team determined that 1,405 hiring packages for FY 2004 through June 2005 cost approximately $1.5 million to create, required at least four weeks to move through the process and entailed at least 40 separate forms. Canceled actions were estimated to cost over $120,000, which is included in the $1.5 million above.

The team also established procedures for creating quality packages to be submitted to CPSD, done right the first time, continuously adding value. Actions were also consolidated to one authoritative document, which is the one currently in use at HRSC-SE. They established and are currently implementing a plan to train employees and to update the new and simplified form. In addition they developed a tracking database to show the status of actions in the review/approval cycle.

Full implementation of the team's recommendations will reduce the cost of actions from $1.5 million to approximately $524,000, a reduction of more than $976,000.

CASREP Crusaders

"We're very proud of this accomplishment," said Barsaleau. "We not only exceeded our objective, but we have also helped improve the quality of work here at SSC Charleston. And that translates both into increased employee satisfaction and improved fleet readiness.

"We're hopeful that other segments of the command that do similar data entry tasks can leverage this work to enhance their productivity as well. In this case, our productivity gains enabled us to pay off the initial and recurring costs after just seven weeks, which makes an attractive return on investment for any manager," he added.

- from CASREP team reports

Copernicus award

McCann earns coveted Navy honor

SSC Charleston's own Adam J. McCann of Code 635 was presented the distinguished Copernicus Award during the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) West event in San Diego in January.

The Copernicus Award is presented annually to military and government service personnel who have made significant contributions to naval warfare in the disciplines of command, control, communications and computers, information systems and information warfare. McCann is one of 26 winners of this year's award, selected from the information technology and electronics community, including civilians, officers and enlisted personnel from the Navy and Coast Guard. He was one of only five civilians selected this year. The AFCEA and U.S. Naval Institute sponsor the award.

McCann, a New England native and College of Charleston graduate with a degree in computer science, said he was surprised to be selected for the award. "It's always nice to be recognized for the work you do, and I hoped that the recognition might help us get even more of it," he said.

"Adam is not only an exceptional individual, he was pivotal in developing the process to model shipboard networks," said Sallie Scarberry, McCann's supervisor. "During our support effort to the Network Consolidation Study Integrated Products Team (NCSIPT), Adam was instrumental in developing this innovative process.

"Adam's accomplishments will have a significant impact on the Sailor in the future," she noted. "We see a lot of talented people who have great ideas, but few have the ability to take it one step further and execute it. This describes Adam," said Scarberry, who added that McCann's success illustrates the "importance of innovation that arises from the interaction between engineers and Sailors."

Since joining SSC Charleston in March of 2004, McCann has done modeling and simulation, primarily network performance modeling for Code 635. "One of my first projects was creating a NETWARS model of the Horizontal Fusion QL-1 Demonstration. Since then I've done some application modeling, server performance modeling, and shipboard network modeling, among other things," he said.

Photo provided

From left, Retired Vice Adm. Herb Browne, then-President and CEO of AFCEA International; Adam McCann; Sallie Scarberry; SSC Charleston Commanding Officer Capt. Red Hoover; Retired Maj. Gen. Thomas Wilkerson, USMC, CEO and Publisher, U.S. Naval Institute; and AFCEA Board Chairman Duane Andrews pose for a photo at the AFCEA West event in San Diego, Calif.

McCann

His current work with the NCSIPT, which earned him the Copernicus award, had its origins in a comparison he performed between six Phase 1 and six Phase 3 Aegis-equipped destroyers. "From there it grew into the NCSIPT and we started studying *USS Iwo Jima* (LHD-7)," he explained.

McCann's success in modeling shipboard networks for the NCSIPT was lauded for advancing the Navy's capability to effectively evaluate onboard network performance. "The modeling environment enables the Navy to better analyze and visualize network architecture changes to support system installation and ensure information is available to the warfighter," according to the award citation.

The model focused on the topology of a fielded platform, specifically a big-deck amphibious ship, and used network traffic data captured during several at-sea experiments. McCann built and used the model to investigate several excursions or "what-if" conditions relevant to key areas and parameters and generated decision making data that can affect acquisition of new platforms.

His efforts in modeling the networks aboard *Iwo Jima* broke new ground in performance analysis of onboard shipboard networks, the award citation noted.

McCann noted that the achievement was the result of a team effort. "It's too bad the Copernicus award only recognizes individual efforts because I really could not have achieved what I did without the help of the team of people working on the NCSIPT modeling," he said.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

Shifting the center of the universe

Taking the stand that the earth is not the center of the universe is an accepted and scientifically proven theory, but it wasn't always so. Copernicus challenged beliefs of the time with his forward thinking, and since 1997, the U.S. Navy has been honoring those who show similar foresight with the annual Copernicus Award.

Copernicus

The award was established as a result of a discussion between Air Force Lt. Gen. C. Norman Wood, (Ret.), then president and CEO of AFCEA International, and the late Vice Adm. Art Cebrowski, then Navy N6. The name for the award came from the Copernicus Architecture used as the blueprint for the future C4I structure of the Navy.

The Copernicus Architecture (shifting the center of the universe) was drafted in December 1990. It called for a modular approach to software with data in a common binary format and open system architectures. It recommended shifting investment away from stove-pipe, vertical, end-to-end systems, in favor of horizontal building block programs and with off-the-shelf commercial equipment.

On the spot

Calvin L. Howard of Code 0216, center, is congratulated by Joseph Nitz (Code 63D), left, of the Enterprise IT Program Office and Kathryn Breitkreutz, right, head of Code 26, after Howard was presented an On-the-Spot award for his support to the Enterprise IT Program Office. The award, presented during a recent Code 63D all hands meeting, noted Howard's "superlative support to Code 63D with various contracting actions significantly contributing to projects supporting the Enterprise IT Program Office and the global war on terrorism."

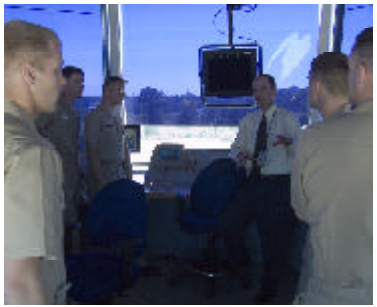
Citadel mids see SSC Charleston's role in the fleet

More than 20 midshipmen from The Citadel's NROTC Unit visited April 17 to learn about SSC Charleston's contributions to the fleet they will soon enter as junior officers.

After being welcomed by Executive Officer Cmdr. Patty Gill, the group gathered in the atrium, above right, before proceeding to the command briefing theater for a brief by Mike Kutch, director of engineering operations (Code 09K).

In the Integrated Products Center (IPC), bottom right, the mids received a brief from Lt. Brian Phillips, STILO/OPSEC program manager, and a brief and demonstration of a multi-touch, multi-user interface device by Tom Glaab, Code 61D.

In the Air Traffic Control (ATC) Engineering Center, the group learned about SSC Charleston's role in support of air traffic control operations. Steve Whitbeck of Code 667, showed the midshipmen around a lab and the control tower, at right, and Command Master Chief ACCM Anthony Corpus demonstrated the state-of-the-art air traffic control equipment in the control room, bottom left.



Photos by Susan Piedfort

MobileNet

Easily deployable, plug and play Internet café

Since the beginning of the Internet café program in 2003, hundreds of thousands of warfighters have enjoyed instant, low-cost, global communications with family and friends at more than 300 cafés set up in mobile tents throughout Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, the Balkans and even aboard oil platforms in the Persian Gulf. Now, SSC Charleston personnel have taken the Internet café concept and made it even better, configuring a new design in the form of a conex box which is more easily transportable and features instantaneous setup on site.

Photo by Harold Senn

MobileNet is easily deployed and features instantaneous setup on site.

"These are remotely deployable and can be transported by airlift, on ships and by truck on a flatbed," said Stan Rhorer of Code 571. "Once they get to the site, it's basically plug and play."

SSC Charleston personnel showed off the fourth of these containerized Internet cafés to local media representatives recently. The portable, wireless unit demonstrated was headed to the European command. Previous units have been sent to Iraq, Afghanistan and the Balkans.

The containerized Internet cafés offer the same features as those in mobile tents. Warfighters can access the Internet and surf the Web, e-mail home and use Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones to call anywhere in the world. The cafés have Web cam and video teleconferencing capability, and equipment for those who just want to play video games or watch movies in a comfortable, air conditioned environment.

The MWR program has proven to be money well spent to improve troop morale. Previously, most servicemembers in the war theater found communication with loved ones was virtually impossible. Even those with access to phones often found it difficult to reach someone on the other end due to time zone differences. Many who had not been able to speak to their spouses or parents for months can now talk, e-mail and chat with loved ones, and even see them via digital video cameras. Just having basic e-mail lets them communicate back and forth when they both have the time, despite the time differences.

"It was something the soldiers asked for and wanted, and something SSC Charleston was able to provide," said

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In this photo from 2003, U.S. Army soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), line up to use the telephone and internet services at an Internet café in Kuwait. Today, thanks to the efforts of SSC Charleston personnel, more than 300 Internet cafés that exist in theater make communication more accessible for warfighters.

Cyber cafés providing troops peace of mind

As a young Marine in Vietnam Stan Rhorer carried the radio for his unit. He would have given anything to be able to use it to phone home every once in a while.

Now, thanks in great part to SSC Charleston and Rhorer's efforts to set up Internet cafés, soldiers, Sailors, Marines and airmen in the Middle East can communicate with loved ones in a way unprecedented in the history of warfare. They can e-mail, talk to and see loved ones — even witness the birth of a child or buy a house — from half a world away.

Photo provided

Stan Rhorer, right, receives an award from SSC Charleston Commanding Officer Capt. Red Hoover, left, during Hoover's recent visit to the Middle East.

"When I was in Vietnam, there were two ways to communicate with home. You could get mail, which came once every 30 days, and if there was an emergency or if you were really lucky, you could access MARS," Rhorer said.

Marines who were licensed ham radio operators used civilian radio equipment to patch phone calls through the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) system. It was a somewhat dicey procedure which involved figuring out when the peak of the sunspot cycle would ionize the 'E' layer of the ionosphere, pointing an antenna at the right spot 100 miles in space at the right time and reflecting a high frequency ham radio signal off the ionized layer over the curve of the earth into a similar station in the U.S., where a ham operator patched the signal to the family via a collect phone call.

Today's satellite technology lets SSC Charleston personnel provide a vastly improved communications capability to warfighters via Internet, or cyber, cafés.

Rhorer considers the cafés the best weapons system possible in this war from a morale standpoint. "This is not a war of real estate … we're not seizing objectives, we're trying to maintain peace," Rhorer said, "and in this type of conflict the morale of troops is more important than ever." Internet cafés give today's warfighter a support link that stays strong through their tour and eases their transition once back home. Rhorer believes the Internet cafés are especially helpful for those returning to the theater of war for the third or fourth tour.

His own six trips to the Middle East – each for two to four months at a time – have given Rhorer insights into the quality of life of the modern warfighter and how to improve it. "It gets really hot; it gets really cold. There is sun, heat and dust. You don't get any decent sleep. There is no privacy, you're just never alone," he said. Tents and trailers have improved the living conditions somewhat, but always being in an alert status — the constant threat of attack — creates a special kind of stress, he observed.

"That environment produces a kind of stress that I think has the biggest impact on the warfighter's quality of life. How you deal with it, how you cope with it certainly affects you," said the veteran of three wars. Having the cyber cafés helps warfighters immensely, he believes.

"For 10 or 15 minutes a guy can actually forget his surroundings and be at home with his family," Rhorer said. This is possible in one of the more than 300 cafés set up and maintained by SSC Charleston personnel. They provide large cafés with 20 computers, eight phones and three Web cams; medium cafés with 10 computers, four phones and a Web cam; and remote cafés, or "café lite," with five computers and two phones. "The remote cafés are smaller in capability but can be located in less dense areas, which is where warfighters really need them," Rhorer said.

The other value of the Internet cafés is to the people back home. "In many ways, the family has it worse," said Rhorer. "They feel the loss of presence of the warfighter; and many ways the deployment is worse for family than for the warfighter. Giving them instant access really helps."

It helps ease the isolation of soldiers' lives and the turbulence of transitioning when they return home. It helps military spouses who are often left to make all child-rearing, household and work decisions alone. Families with young children benefit most, many experts agree, because for children, seeing a person on a screen has more impact than just hearing a voice over a phone.

Satellite technology being the way it is today facilitated making the Internet cafés, Rhorer said. The biggest expense involved is the civilian satellite bandwidth used, not the equipment, like having a TV and having to buy cable, he said.

The big push for Internet cafés started when an infantry unit in Iraq asked for the capability for soldiers to e-mail home. When a six-month extension in Iraq came for the unit, the Army wanted to answer this communication need to help lessen the hardship of the extension. Once the unit received and started using the Internet café, it provided a dramatic lesson learned at the joint task force headquarters level on how to improve morale for troops all over Iraq, according to Rhorer.

Initially funded by Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the cafés are now underwritten by the Multi-National Corps - Iraq (MNC-I). SSC Charleston personnel are responsible for the cafés from cradle to grave, repairing, replenishing and replacing defective components. They train the troops who will administer the systems, which were designed with simplicity in mind.

While the Internet cafés have been so well received, Rhorer believes MobileNet is the wave of the future for deployed forces, since these containerized cafés are better protected, quickly deployable and basically plug and play once on site. They also provide untapped capability, such as being used as small education centers using their video equipment.

"MobileNet cafés can go a long way to providing education centers," Rhorer said, "especially because you can easily move them from one unit to another."

Rhorer and other SSC Charleston personnel were also involved in the stand up of a network operations center for SPAWAR personnel in Iraq. They cleaned up an existing shelter and divided it into living areas, a kitchen and recre-

Continued on next page

Warfighters communicate with loved ones in an Internet café designed and deployed by SSC Charleston personnel.

MobileNet

Continued from page 22

Photo by Harold Senn

MobileNet offers all the communication comforts of home.

Rhorer. SSC Charleston personnel who have traveled the world installing the mobile tents in the last four years have seen first-hand what a difference the Internet cafés are making. Once set up, they are in use around the clock, every day of the week. The intangible benefits they offer a warfighter – who is also someone's mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, friend or colleague – are not quantifiable. Warfighters say the Internet cafés have been the most effective tool to reduce the separation anxiety caused by the stress of being so far from home.

With a son serving in the war theater, SSC Charleston Commanding Officer Capt. Red Hoover knows personally the value of the Internet cafés. During a recent MobileNet demonstration he said, "My wife told me, 'Whatever you do, keep putting those systems out there!' "

Rear Adm. Charles Smith, SPAWARCOM vice commander, has also communicated with his warfighter son via an SSC Charleston-provided Internet cafe, and the admiral asked to see one when he visited Charleston recently. Smith related that in one of his first e-mails home, his son noted proudly the computer he was using had a SPAWAR sticker on it.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

Cyber cafés

Continued from previous page

ation room, and installed amenities such as phones and Internet capability. Rhorer is especially proud of that accomplishment since it allows SSC Charleston to "take care of their own" employees and industry partners deployed in theater.

"They love it. It's better than the transient quarters there, plus there's a synergism between us that helps resolve problems and issues we've become familiar with over there. We enable them," he said. It's one of many ways SSC Charleston personnel are enabling cooperation and efficiency in Iraq.

A little more than a year ago when Rhorer was in Iraq he walked down the street to a field hospital and was surprised to see they had no Internet capability. "They had purchased equipment locally which was junk they weren't able to use. They really needed an Internet café because for them, life is just like on 'MASH.' Everybody lives and sleeps in the hospital, and they rarely had time to leave the building much less go find a café. Plus, maybe some of the patients could use it," he said.

Working through Internet access and privacy issues for the staff and patients, Rhorer was able to give them a café. "When Captain Hoover came out, I took him over to there to see the it. We ran into the colonel who was CO of the hospital, and he insisted on taking us on a tour. He was so thankful for that café," Rhorer said.

For the SSC Charleston team, job satisfaction goes hand in hand with giving warfighters' new capabilities that save their lives or improve the quality of their lives. Right now there's a warfighter shutting out the heat, noise and danger of their job to spend some time "at home" via an Internet café. "It just amazes me what we can do, given the time and resources," Rhorer said. "That's one of the great things about working here. There's something always good going on."

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

USS Carney ***as seen from an "intercepted vessel" during successful tests of the wireless link.*** Photos provided

Maritime intercept ops go wireless

From Suhail Khan, Code 533

On March 21, 2006, the Office of Naval Research approved a PEO C4I, PMW 160 Rapid Technology Transition (RTT) proposal which provided for an 18-month acceleration of a new capability for a wireless link between the DDG-51 Arleigh Burke class guided missile destroyer and the target vessel in support of Expanded Maritime Intercept Operations (EMIO).

The system provides a wireless link between the interdict vessel and the host Navy ship for transmission of biometric data collected from the crew of the interdict vessel.

Because of the fleet's urgent need, Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) funded an interim solution to provide wireless reach back functionality sooner. Recent attention gained by the project has resulted in OPNAV admirals taking keen interest in funding and immediate deployment of the interim solution for use in the global war on terrorism.

From Dec. 4 to Dec. 8, 2006, SSC Charleston personnel conducted security test and evaluation (ST&E) and operational tests at sea on board guided missile destroyer *USS Carney* (DDG 64). A five-day underway period to conduct mission preparedness exercises offered an opportunity for me to get underway on board *Carney* with support personnel Tim Schmitz (American Systems) and Ted Douglas (X-Feds Inc.) We departed Mayport, Fla., early Dec. 4.

For the operational test, a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) posed as the interdicted vessel. As part of the operational tests biometric files were transferred from the RHIB to the host ship from four different distances away in less than three seconds with no errors. During the test, *USS Carney* Commanding Officer Cmdr. Patrick Shea asked for a picture of the ship to be taken from the RHIB and sent back through the wireless link. Upon receiving the picture at the MIO platform through the wireless link, Shea sent the photo to his squadron, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 24, via e-mail as an example of the capability of the wireless link.

Suhail Khan mans a laptop in the background as **USS Carney** ***Commanding Officer Cmdr. Patrick Shea, center, is all smiles after receiving a photo via the wireless link.***

A team in the RHIB transfers files to **USS Carney** ***during recent operational tests.***

ST&E and operational tests were performed successfully by the SSC Charleston team with no detected vulnerabilities. The captain and MIO boarding team were highly impressed by the tests and a positive naval message was sent out by DESRON 24.

Marathon woman

Lisa Pass is seeing the USA, 26 miles at a time

Lisa Pass likes to run.

The Director of Business Operations for the Tactical C2 Engineering Division (Code 61) first started running when she joined the Army in 1981. Years later, she felt the need to challenge herself more, so she started training for a marathon. Pass ran her first marathon in Virginia Beach, Va., in 1993, completing the 26.2-mile run while pregnant with her son.

Approximately 15 years, 65 marathons and 60 pairs of running shoes later, the SSC Charleston plankowner joined an elite group of less than 300 U.S. runners who have completed a marathon in every state in the union.

The Indiana native decided to run all 50 states in 1999, after she had already had four or five marathons under her belt. When she crossed the finish line at the April 15 marathon at Whidbey Island, Wash., it signified more than completing the 50-state challenge.

"I chose the Whidbey Island 'Wings of Gold' marathon as a nod to my husband," said Pass, who is married to Rick Pass, also of SSC Charleston. He is a retired Navy P3 tactical coordinator (TACCO), and Whidbey Island is a major P3 Orion base. In addition to her husband, there were 30 or 40 family members, friends and fellow club runners waiting for her at the finish line to help celebrate her achievement.

A self-professed "middle to back of the packer," Pass averages between 4½ to five hours to complete a marathon, so she had plenty time to reflect on her experiences in the 50-state quest.

Photo provided

Lisa Pass

There was her most difficult marathon, through the Kilauea Volcano Wilderness on Hawaii's Big Island. "It was a trail marathon with only 130 to 150 runners," she explained. "I got lost, hopelessly lost. My husband loves to tell this story, because they almost had to launch a park service search to find me. It was pretty embarrassing."

"She's not kidding about that," said Rick, adding that the ranger was about to make the call to launch the search and rescue helicopter when his wife suddenly showed up at the finish line. Pass finished the race in 7½ hours. Her worst time ever, she noted.

There was a race in Delaware that required runners to ford two rivers and cross barb wire fences.

There was her most miserable marathon, an April run in Cape May, N.J., where it was 35 degrees, with pouring rain and gale force winds. "I started crying at about mile 16," she recalled.

"Each marathon is unique and all have something to offer," Pass said. Most have at least one funny story attached. There was the beauty of Big Sur, in California. "And Helena, Montana, which was absolutely beautiful and totally surprising for me," she said. Even with the embarrassment of getting lost, the Hawaii run also ranks among the most beautiful. "The volcano is amazing," she said.

The most rewarding? That was the Whidbey Island run, no question.

While few could argue that Pass' marathon achievement puts her in a select category, she downplayed her feat, and said that anyone can run a marathon, adding, "But get good shoes."

To prepare for a marathon, she'll work out in the weight room and run 20 to 30 miles a week. The number one benefit of this activity, she said, is "It gets me out of doing yard work at home." She eats a healthy diet heavy on fruits and vegetables, and hasn't ruled out the value of beer as "a number one training food." Pass seems to enjoy running marathons so much that she can almost make running more than 26 miles at one time sound like something "fun."

For her, it is a physical and social endeavor. "I generally talk to other runners during most of a marathon," she said. If she hits "the wall," it will usually be at mile 16 or 17, she said, "when I realize I still have 10 more miles.

"What keeps me going is the camaraderie and fun of the event. If it takes me 15 minutes more for a race, no big deal. About the last three miles I listen to music if I am struggling," she said. "But most of the time I am talking."

Running marathons has brought Pass good health and wonderful friendships with people from all over the world. In fact, seeing many of the same friendly faces at the various races has been one unexpected pleasure.

"Plus we got to see the biggest ball of twine in Minnesota!" she added.

After spending the last few years targeting specific races so she can mark those states off her marathon list, she'd like to revisit those states in the next few years at a more leisurely pace. And there are always more places to run, even after completing the marathon in the 50th state.

"Long term, I would like to run Antarctica," she said, "but I am afraid to even talk to my husband about the cost of that...."

- Susan Piedfort
Chronicle Editor

Continued on next page

Photo provided

Cmdr. Phil Turner, currently assigned to PMW 750, runs the Fallujah marathon.

T urner takes on F allujah marathon

Cmdr. Phil Turner, who served a tour at SSC Charleston a few years ago and is currently assigned to PMW 750, recently completed a year of duty in Iraq. The accomplished marathon runner returned home to San Diego, Calif., in February.

Many U.S. marathons partner with the military services to hold runs in combat zones, and in January Turner ran a marathon in Fallujah sponsored by the Houston Marathon. He finished fifth of 50 in the race, and his time of 3:08 in Fallujah would have placed him in the top 200 out of 5,333 finishers on the less difficult Houston Marathon course. Turner also qualified for the Boston Marathon, the most prestigious race in the U.S. The following e-mail he sent to his running friends after the race illustrates the challenges of running and the dangers of serving in the war zone.

From: *Turner CDR Philip*
Sent: *Monday, January 15, 2007 12:16 PM*

Well, it's finally in the can. We had about 50 brave souls out to run 26 miles yesterday morning. Good to be over with the training piece of it -- the base is only 8 miles around, and you can only run past the burning garbage so many times before you get very bored with it.

Goods: Finishing 5th, with a 3:05-ahead of a bunch of 25-year-old SEALS and Recon Marines-made the sore calves worthwhile! Also won an iPod in the raffle -- the guy ahead of me won shoelaces and was kind of bummed.

Bads: The SEAL lieutenant ahead of me who pulled up at mile 23 with a hip stress fracture. MEDEVAC'd out later that morning .... His SEAL days are probably over -- the guy just survived BUDS (the SEAL Basic Course) and got over here -- ouch!

Strange Things: It rained for three days prior to the race, so entire course was nasty, and the third of the course off the roads was a huge mudbog. The sand here turns into glue/cement when wet, so running with another pound on each foot is an experience.

Running for two miles behind three M-1 tanks, probably will never get to do that again.

McClung

Closing thoughts: Many of us were thinking a lot yesterday about Maj. Megan McClung, an avid runner and the MEF public affairs officer, who had set up the Al-Asad Marathon for us in November. She was killed in Ramadi three weeks later, and her death hit a lot of people here hard. A real ball of fire and a great officer, who died doing what she wanted to do ... makes you realize the human cost of what we are doing here...

Hope all is well with you ... now it's back to the salt mine until turnover. Still looks good for early Feb., keep your fingers crossed.

- Phil

ThinkTEC

Innovation summit shows SSC Charleston capabilities

SSC Charleston's Critical Infrastructure Protection Center had one of more than 50 demos featured at ThinkTEC.

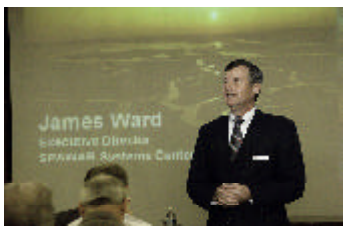
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston hosted more than 400 leaders in business, homeland security, technology, science, military, government and economic development for the 2007 ThinkTEC Homeland Security Innovation Conference Feb. 21 through 23.

The conference, sponsored by the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, featured international, national and regional briefings on suicide terrorism, transportation security, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) initiatives, Project Seahawk, infrastructure and disaster planning, environmental hazards and recovery methods. Hands-on exhibits showcased more than 50 cutting-edge technologies, equipment and vehicles.

The event started with a preconference day of behind-the-scenes VIP tours. Attendees toured Charleston Air Force Base, and some got a bird's eye view of Charleston during a C-17 ride. After a keynote address by U.S. Senator Jim DeMint (R-S.C.), conference attendees looked at ballistic- and blast-proof vehicles while touring Force Protection Inc., in Ladson. The next two days included expert presentations, political leader's reports, product exhibits and considerable networking opportunities.

The Honorable Jay Cohen, a retired Navy rear admiral who now serves as DHS Under Secretary for Science and Technology, made the keynote address on the final day of the conference. He praised SSC Charleston's success in the delivery of enhanced technology capabilities to the warfighter and DHS. In his discussion of future DHS initiatives, Cohen stressed the importance of innovation to providing the technological advances necessary to ensure DHS mission success. The former submariner pointed to the H.L. Hunley as an example. "The Hunley started out as a boiler in Mississippi," he said. "The innovation you bring is often borne of necessity." Noting that terrorists take our technology and use it against us, Cohen said we must not only understand the technology but also how it may be abused and turned against us.

ThinkTEC is an initiative of the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce designed to accelerate the growth of high-tech and knowledge-based business in the Charleston region. Hosted this year by SSC Charleston, ThinkTEC showcases the Charleston region as a model community for public/private partnership initiatives, technological advances and business opportunities for homeland security and business continuity planning. It also provides information on preventing, protecting, responding and recovering from natural and man-made disasters.



Clockwise from top, attendees gather for a presentation; SSC Charleston Executive Director James Ward welcomes the crowd; SSC Charleston Commanding Officer Capt. Red Hoover and Ward listen to the keynote address; The Honorable Jay Cohen, DHS Under Secretary for Science and Technology speaks on the final day of the conference; and Dave Neumann of Code 715 (right) and Shawn Boykin, Code 534, (center) talk to a visitor at SSC Charleston's Dynamic Open Architecture Radio System (DOARS) display.

Professional Development

Toastmasters

Improving public speaking and leadership skills in a friendly environment

You've prepared for weeks for the big presentation, rehearsing it enough to give it in your sleep. But as you approach the lectern your heart races and you can't breathe. All at once your palms are sweaty, your mouth is dry and your stomach is turning. You open your mouth to begin and … your mind goes totally blank.

While some people make giving speeches and presentations look virtually effortless – some even appear to *enjoy* doing it – in a recent survey reported in *The Book of Lists* respondents ranked the fear of public speaking higher than the fear of death, by a margin of two to one. Research has shown that those with strong communication skills, particularly those who speak well in front of an audience, are more likely to succeed than those who cannot. This is especially true in fast-paced, technological environments such as SSC Charleston, where employees face an endless exchange of ideas, messages and information as they deal with one another and with customers day after day. The success – or funding – of a project can hinge on how well it is presented.

SSC Charleston employees need not fear. SPAWAR Toastmasters Club 8627 is here to help.

The Toastmasters way

Toastmasters has been around for more than 80 years and offers proven methods to practice and hone the communication and leadership skills of its members. Shelton Stewart of Code 513, president of the SSC Charleston club, stressed that Toastmasters is a "learn-by-doing" workshop that allows speakers to improve their skills in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere. "We support each other," Stewart said. "We help each other reach our goals."

Seminars offer the jittery speaker all the skill and confidence necessary to face an audience – for $1,000 or more. But one-time training is not usually permanently successful. Anyone can master public speaking, but as with a sport or a musical instrument, to be good at it one must practice it often, which is the Toastmasters way.

Joanne Banks gives her icebreaker speech at a recent SSC Charleston Toastmasters meeting.

SSC Charleston is among thousands of business and government organizations around the world that have discovered Toastmasters is a cost-efficient and effective way to offer communication training to its people. The command pays the $20 joining fee and yearly dues of $54 for government employees who join SSC Charleston's club, and some contractors can ask for reimbursement from their sponsoring company.

New members receive training manuals, the magazine *Toastmaster* and other resources offering insights on speaking and leadership techniques. They are also assigned to a mentor who guides and supports them along the way. The training manual takes the speaker through a series of 10 speaking assignments designed to instill a basic foundation for public speaking. "When they are ready, new members give their first speech," said Code 545's David Osborne, vice president of education for Toastmasters 8627. "It's all based on their comfort level. The first speech is easy, a four-minute 'ice-breaker' that tells others about yourself." Most other speeches are five to seven minutes long, which keeps club meetings to an hour. The principles learned, however, can be applied to a 40-minute address.

The 10 "manual" speeches are completed at the member's own pace, largely dependent on their workload and travel requirements. Completing them earns the designation of "Competent Communicator." Toastmasters offers 15 advanced manuals to further develop specific speaking skills such as public relations, technical presentations, speaking to inform and persuasive speaking.

"There are two tracks, communication and leadership," Osborne explained. "In the communication track, you learn how to develop a speech — organizing, outlining, preparing and delivering it effectively. The leadership track goes through listening skills, feedback, time management, organization and delegating."

Members develop and practice leadership skills by working through the "Competent Leader" manual and serving as leaders at various organizatic levels. Completion of the ac vanced communications and leadership tracks earns the designation of "Distinguished Toastmaster."

Meetings open to all

At bi-monthly meeting Toastmasters learn by speaki and working with others. Every member has the opportunity to make goals, gain confidence and achieve objectives. "Each meeting gives members a chance to give impromptu speeches, present prepared speeches, evaluate others and serve in leadership capacities," said Osborne.

Meetings also feature a Table Topics exercise in which speakers are chosen at random to give impromptu two-minute speeches on a current issue. "It helps you think on your feet, put your thoughts together and present them concisely," said Stewart.

Toastmasters teaches speakers to communicate efficiently because in any organization, time is money. During Table Topics, the two-minute limit is strictly enforced, and speakers are evaluated on how well they composed and conveyed their thoughts. Evaluators look at the speaker's posture and count verbal distractions, such as how many times "ah," "a" or "um" are said. To someone already terrified of public speaking, this may not sound like fun. But in the Toastmasters environment, which is like a learning laboratory or support group, these techniques have proven to be amazingly successful.

Theresa Breaux, a charter member of the SSC Charleston club and currently its Sergeant-at-Arms, met her initial goals as a Toastmaster long ago but still enjoys the activities. "You never stop learning," she said. "Each speaker has their own unique style, and through the evaluations, mentoring and leadership roles, you can always find ways to improve yourself.

"Beginners are mentored and nurtured, and good speakers are encouraged to get better," said Breaux. Toastmasters learn how to listen, give meaningful feedback, and accept and benefit from criticism – skills that help them succeed in any environment.

"It's been very rewarding to see individuals who have worked hard to improve themselves through Toastmasters," said Breaux. "It's rewarding to see them progress and meet their goals, and especially to see them build interpersonal and leadership skills that are helping them in the workplace.

"It's all about self improvement," she added.

SSC Charleston's club meets on the second and fourth Friday each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the command briefing theater. Visitors are welcome, and are not required to speak. For more information call Diane Kobs, vice president of membership, at 218-5992.

- Susan Piedfort, Chronicle Editor

History of Toastmasters

Toastmasters was the brainchild of Illinois native Ralph C. Smedley. A 1903 graduate of Wesleyan University, Smedley was director of education for the Bloomington YMCA when he realized young men needed training in communication. He formed a speaking club and called it "Toastmasters" because its activities were like a banquet with toasts and after-dinner speakers. Members enjoyed taking turns making speeches, evaluating them and presiding at the weekly meetings. The club flourished until Smedley moved to Freeport, Ill.

Ralph C. Smedley

Smedley organized Toastmasters clubs wherever he moved — Freeport and Rock Island, Ill.; and San Jose, Calif., — but once he left, the clubs disbanded. A Santa Ana club, however, caught on for good. After the first meeting in the YMCA basement in 1924, men from neighboring communities sought out the group. Smedley helped them organize their own Toastmaster clubs, and united them all in a federation designed to coordinate activities with uniform methods. The addition of a British Columbia, Canada, club made it Toastmasters International.

While working full time at the YMCA, Smedley was also Toastmasters' executive secretary and editor of *Toastmaster* magazine. He resigned from the YMCA to give Toastmasters his undivided attention in 1941. Opening a small office in Santa Ana, Smedley hired a secretary to handle correspondence and wrote materials for the club. He wrote the manuals *Basic Training* and *Beyond Basic Training*, and books on public speaking and parliamentary procedure.

Toastmasters continued to grow, and by 1962 had 80,000 members, 3,500 clubs and a new 27,000-square-foot building in Santa Ana. Smedley was involved in Toastmasters until shortly before he died at age 87 in 1965. In 1990 Toastmasters moved into its current headquarters in Rancho Santa Margarita.

Toastmasters International has come a long way since its founding in 1924, helping more than four million people develop public speaking skills and become confident communicators. Today's clubs meet at military bases, universities, churches and prisons. There are Toastmasters clubs for senior citizens, professional groups, bilingual groups, singles and visually impaired.

Smedley's contributions have not gone unnoticed. In 1950 Wesleyan University granted him an honorary doctorate degree. Santa Ana named a junior high school after him in 1955. Toastmasters named him honorary president and lifetime board member in 1956. The Santa Ana Toastmasters, renamed the Smedley Number One Club in honor of its founder, has perhaps the best tribute. At every meeting a photograph of Smedley and the original club charter are placed in an empty chair near the lectern to represent his continuing inspiration.

CMMI® Maturity Level 3

IBFTC achieves milestone

The Integrated Battle Force Training Center (IBFTC) Project has achieved CMMI® Maturity Level (ML) 3, becoming the sixth SSC Charleston project to make this step before the formal command-level appraisal.

IBFTC Project Manager Lexine Langley said her team was excited by the accomplishment, which came after months of preparation.

"We were so thrilled that our efforts were not in vain and that we had accomplished a goal that was established by the senior management of Team SPAWAR," she said. "CMMI® has allowed us to cement and expand our role within the Center for Information Dominance (CID)."

The IBFTC mission is to deliver blended training solutions to meet Integrated Battle Force Training requirements in a fleet concentration area (FCA).

Langley credits CMMI® for many of her team's successes, including development of standard processes for delivering quality training to the U.S. Navy; efficient implementation of a teaming relationship between SSC Charleston and the Center for Information Dominance (CID); and a reduction in the amount of replacement inventory through standard configuration management practices and tools.

By applying the discipline they learned in pursuit of ML3 – especially requirements traceability and the use of configuration management tools – the IBFTC team developed a human capital management model for network training specialists. It's a project that will have wide-ranging benefits, Langley said.

"This model tracks human training specialists as a system and catalogs their knowledge and skills as individual configuration managed objects," she said. "With our strong project planning, using our requirements traceability and WBS, we were able to insert the proper skill set configuration that is housed in a human training specialist at the appropriate time for the appropriate course of instruction."

Mike Kutch, director of engineering operations (Code 09K) offered his congratulations. "This is a team that has conquered a lot of challenges, and they are to be commended for their hard work," he said.

To achieve ML3, IBFTC successfully passed an independent Software Engineering Institute (SEI) formal "Class A" appraisal, the most rigorous appraisal format. The appraisal focused on measuring the IBFTC project in implementing practices for project planning, project monitoring and control, configuration management, requirements management, supplier agreement management, measurement and analysis, process and product quality assurance (PPQA), requirements development, technical solution, product integration, verification, validation, integrated project management, risk management, and decision analysis and resolution.

Additionally, the command's organizational processes of organizational process focus, organizational process definition and organizational training were also appraised.

IBFTC team participants were: Senior Manager Jennifer Watson, Program Manager Lexine Langley, Deputy Program Manager Dewey Collier and team members Rodger Moore, Doug Montgomery, Rob Camper, Dennis Trout, Jeff Davis, Renee Puzio, Alysia Wimett, Al Hamilton, Dave Worley, Robert Jessee and Gail Sabato. Providing external PPQA support were Don Johnson and Wayne Mitnick.

The team also extended a special thanks to Pam Bell and Renee Boltin for their work in organizational training, and to enterprise process group (EntPG) members Bruce Carter, Jerry Suggs and John Foore for involvement in organizational process focus and organizational process definition.

The team also thanked the Engineering Process Office (EPO) for providing command processes, sample documents, templates, SOPs, mentoring and mini-assessments.

- Beth Meloy, Engineering Process Office

> ***"CMMI® has allowed us to cement and expand our role within the Center for Information Dominance."***
>
> -Lexine Langley

Electronic invoicing

A success story at SSC Charleston

When Gary Kaasa of Code 0122 first set out to develop a program to minimize unmatched cash in SSC Charleston's accounts payable system, he didn't know it would lead to his selection for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN) Financial Management and Comptroller (FM&C) award in accounting.

The award cites the accountant's contribution to improving financial management within the Department of the Navy's commands Echelon III and below for 2006. It all started when Kaasa developed a program to minimize unmatched cash by downloading daily Columbus invoice disbursements from the Defense Financial and Accounting Service (DFAS) Standard Contract Reconciliation System (SCRT) for loading and costing in the SSC Charleston accounts payable system. Kaasa worked extensively with DFAS and other agencies to obtain connectivity with systems and tables containing data to clarify and eradicate disparities.

Loading and costing the invoices from these daily files eliminates both the need for hard copy invoices and the delays caused by late delivery of hard copy invoices. It also provides an accurate record of the disbursement data for precise costing and ensures that balances on contracts and job order numbers reflect actual current conditions.

Before SCRT, Kaasa had discovered the Unmatched Disbursement Reconciliation System (UDRS) and made it available to the SSC Charleston finance community. When Kaasa's DFAS contacts advised him that SCRT would take the place of UDRS, he obtained all the pertinent information and scheduled training to become a Registered Contract Reconciliation Agent and qualified user of SCRT. Seeing the importance of the system, Kaasa also wrote a justification for NMCI approval. While acquiring access to financial information systems warehousing data pertinent to the SSC Charleston mission, he spoke to DFAS and Defense Contract Administration Services (DCAS) officials, COBRA personnel, SCRT developers, electronic data interchange (EDI) and Wide Area Work Flow (WAWF) planners about his concerns and goals.

As a result of this dialogue, DFAS has included the invoice/shipment field for DCAS and the new field is included in the October 2006 program upgrade. Thanks to Kaasa's efforts this field will also appear in the COBRA disbursement histories, and will be available to all agencies via the Web-based program. The improvements, which provide the data required for powerful and massive updates of SSC Charleston's accounting system, are attributed to Kaasa's initiative to undertake successful dialogue and alliances with other agencies. As unexplainable ULOs disappear, the previously daunting task of having all contracts properly and accurately costed, becomes a very attainable goal.

The ASN (FM&C) award in accounting is given annually to the Navy accountant whose innovative ideas result in new accounting programs and processes that result in cost savings to the Navy and U.S. taxpayer. Kaasa will be recognized for his accomplishment at the American Society of Military Comptrollers' national convention at Kansas City, Mo., in May. He has developed other labor saving programs that enable cash to be distributed over thousands of records, streamlining work that was previously performed manually.

Also an accomplished keyboardist, Kaasa plays his keyboard for various SSC Charleston events and on Sundays at his church.

- Lamar Woods

Photo by Harold Senn

Gary Kaasa

Scientists to Sea: Deploying with the customer

The Scientists to Sea (STS) program continues to provide excellent feedback to SPAWARriors from their customer: the warfighter. Brian Diana and Brian Edwards recently returned from an embark on Norfolk, Va.-based guided missile destroyer USS Laboon *(DDG 58), and both saw great benefits from understanding the Sailor's way of life.*

"In the private sector it is as simple as watching who buys your product or who purchases your services to know who your customer is. You can tailor your product line and services to directly benefit and appeal to the customer," said Brian Diana of Code 723.

"As a civilian in the Department of Navy, it is a bit more challenging to know who the customer is. It becomes harder to truly know what products they need and how your wares will affect them," he added. A powerful solution to this problem, he learned recently, is the STS program.

"After having participated in this program, I can only begin to describe how enlightening the experience has been," Diana said. "The crew of *USS Laboon* demonstrated a vast knowledge of their systems and equipment. While touring the ship, we would ask different crew members about their systems and equipment. They were so knowledgeable that their impromptu briefs could be confused with well-rehearsed presentations," he said.

U.S. Navy photo

Laboon *gets underway from Norfolk, Va.*

Diana got excellent feedback from crew members about their systems and equipment. Some suggestions were as simple as getting longer wires for peripherals or using optical mice in their limited space. "As we develop our products we can strive to make them use less space, more efficiently," Diana said. Direct customer input such as this offered great opportunities to improve SSC Charleston's support to the warfighter.

"The Scientist to Sea program has given me a valuable experience." Diana said. "Those few days out to sea have provided me immense insight into what our Sailors are faced with. I have a better understanding of where they work, how they work, and what they work on. Although I only spent a short time on the *Laboon*, it has instilled a greater level of respect and understanding for our customer, the warfighter," he said.

"I would highly encourage anyone that is interested in seeing how the seagoing Navy operates to participate in this training. It is an absolutely worthwhile endeavor," said Brian Edwards of Code 633. "You will leave with a newfound respect for our Sailors and an experience you will remember for a lifetime!"

The first day started with reveille at 0600, followed by breakfast on the mess decks. During a navigation briefing Edwards volunteered to ride in the rubber hulled inflatable boat (RHIB). He was paired with a *Laboon* officer, boarded the RHIB and was lowered over the side and into the water with a crane. "The crew was armed with an M60, M16, and two M9 pistols. Our mission was to keep small craft out of the ship's safety zone," he said.

"We went ahead of the ship to meet oncoming traffic, force them to change course to remain about 500 yards away from the ship, and then shadow them past the ship. We were out for about 5.5 hours and I was driving for about 1.5 hours of that time. When we returned to the ship, I climbed up a rope ladder over the side to the flight deck then the remaining crew and RHIB were hoisted back aboard," Edwards continued.

Edwards stood conning officer watch with a *Laboon* junior officer the first evening. "The Conning Officer has responsibility for steering the ship (via voice commands to the helm), identifying and avoiding traffic, and preventing collisions with traffic or water hazards.

On the second day, the visiting SPAWARriors watched man overboard drills and maneauvering trials. They saw SPAWAR equipment in action during tours of the radio room, where all signals are transmitted and received by the ship, and the combat area where targets are identified, tracked and engaged. They also saw sonar, where Sailors identify and track all traffic with a detectable sound signature.

Wednesday saw the scientists in navigation, where they learned how ship position is determined and verified and how the ship's course is plotted.

"During navigation training the General Quarters alarm was sounded," Edwards said, and "the ship immediately became a hive of activity as Sailors reported to 'battle stations,' secured all hatches, donned fire fighting equipment and battle gear, and set all valves for combat conditions. This was all accomplished in less than seven minutes," he said.

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SSC Charleston class helps Navy engineers earn EIT certification

From Fritz Ben Hood, Code 533

In an effort to improve commandwide skills and encourage career building, Code 50 recently held training classes to prepare Navy engineers in Charleston for the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam (FE).

For those not in the know, the FE is a stepping stone for engineers to obtain a professional license. After passing the FE and obtaining their engineer-in-training (EIT) certificate, engineers must work under another licensed professional engineer for four years before qualifying for the final test, the Principles and Practice in Engineering (PE) exam.

It is only after passing this exam that an engineer receives his or her license and achieves the status of professional engineer. Licensed professional engineers are allowed to legally put their stamp of approval on drawings and design documents to certify them for use.

Candidates must register with both the state in which they wish to be licensed and with the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). The exam is an eight-hour-long challenge demanding knowledge of the engineering specialty and a broad understanding of concepts from the entire spectrum of the profession.

The morning section of the exam covers a range of topics, but the questions are shorter and require only a formula or a bit of deductive reasoning to solve. The afternoon section offers a choice between a set similar to the morning or one that focuses on individual engineering disciplines. This section, regardless of topic, has fewer questions and an increased level of difficulty as many of the problems require solving multiple parts to get to the ultimate solution.

Roy Johnson, branch head in Code 537, and I set up the SSC Charleston class. It was held on Mondays from 4 to 6:30 p.m., or on Wednesdays when Monday was a holiday. Dr. Jason Skinner, a professor of engineering at The Citadel, has worked with the command in the past and was contracted to teach the course. Students used an FE help book called the *FE Review Manual* authored by Michael R. Lindeburg, which focused on each subject of the test and included problems and solutions. A student handbook also was provided at no cost to the students.

Photo by Himanshu Darji

Pictured above from the April 2 class are, from left, Donald Neal, Elizabeth Moses, Fritz Hood, Corey Smith, Dr. Jason Skinner, Kerry Loyd, Justin Jackson and Robert Taylor.

"I enjoyed the class very much, although sometimes an MP3 of the discussion would have been helpful in interpreting the written solution," said attendee Donald Neal of Code 631. "I highly recommend this class to anyone wanting to replace Spock as chief science officer on the *USS Enterprise*."

"The FE is hard and I need to study more," said Robby Taylor. "The class has given me insight to problems I could not have solved on my own."

Instructor Skinner said, "The fundamentals of engineering examination review class was a refreshing experience for someone who normally only sees engineers at the beginning of their careers. Teaching this review class to successful engineers willing to put forth even more effort to enhance their standing within the engineering community has been both exciting and rewarding," he said. "Leading these review sessions has been fun and challenging all at the same time, and I would gladly do it again."

More information about FE registration can be found at: *www.els-examreg.org/south_carolina.php#procedure.*

Those interested is attending a future class should call Pam Bell at 218-4645.

Identity theft

From Lt. Brian Phillips
SSC Charleston STILO/OPSEC
Program Manager

You work hard every day to make a living and support yourself and your family. What happens, though, when you find out that someone has used your name to get a credit card and has run up thousands of dollars in charges that you are now going to have to convince the credit card company you are *not* responsible for?

What if they opened bank accounts in your name, committed crimes using your name, or worse?! Innocent people are being arrested because someone is committing crimes using their names. Can you prevent this from happening? Can you protect yourself from these white collar criminals? What is law enforcement doing about it?

We will look into the dark world of identity theft in which we can all fall victims. We'll find out how others can get access to your personal identification information, how you can protect yourself, and what to do if you become a victim.

Types of identity theft

Identity theft can enter into many areas of our lives. It involves any instance where a person uses someone else's identification documents or other identifiers in order to impersonate that person for whatever reason. According to a September 2003 survey conducted by the Federal Trade Commission, an estimated 10 million people in the United States found out they were victims of identity theft in the previous year. More appropriately titled "identity fraud," your identity might be stolen in order for someone to commit:

Financial fraud - This type of identity theft includes bank fraud, credit card fraud, computer and telecommunications fraud, social program fraud, tax refund fraud, mail fraud and several more. A total of 25 types of financial identity fraud are investigated by the U.S. Secret Service. While financial identity theft is the most prevalent (of the approximately 10,000 financial crime arrests Secret Service agents made in 1997, 94 percent involved identity theft), it certainly isn't the only type. Other types of identity theft, however, usually involve a financial element as well — typically to fund some sort of criminal enterprise.

Criminal activities- This type of identity fraud involves taking on someone else's identity in order to commit a crime, enter a country, get special permits, hide one's own identity or commit acts of terrorism. These criminal activities can include computer and cyber crimes, organized crime, drug trafficking, alien smuggling and money laundering.

Credit card fraud - This is identity theft in its most simple and common form. It can be accomplished either through a scenario mentioned above, or when your pre-approved credit card offers fall into the wrong hands. All a person has to do is get these out of your mailbox (or trash can), mail them in with a change of address request and start spending. Someone can easily apply for a credit card in your name if they have the right information. You won't know about it until the credit card company tracks you down and demands payment for purchases "you" racked up.

With a person's name, social security number and date of birth, someone can get loans, access the person's existing bank accounts, open new bank accounts, lease or buy cars, get insurance, you name it. Think about the things you throw in the trash. Do you throw your pay stubs away once you've recorded the amount in your checkbook? Take a look at some of the information on that seemingly unimportant piece of paper: Your full name, address, social security number, bank account number (if you have direct deposit), employer's name and address, rate of pay.

Think about the types of information you have to provide in order to get a credit card or a loan or lease a car. There is very little additional information that is needed. I recently got a home equity loan and did all but the final signing of the documents over the phone, and faxed all of my financial information directly to the loan officer. It would not have been that difficult to "create" those documents using someone else's social security number, bank account numbers and other personal information. That's a scary thought! Imagine finding out that someone had gotten a mortgage in your name. Clearing that up with the bank and getting it off of your credit history would be quite a battle. You are the one left with the time-consuming task of repairing your credit and getting your finances back on track.

Accessing personal information

Your personal information can be found in many places. It can be dug out of trash cans and dumpsters, known as "dumpster diving," memorized or copied by sales clerks and waiters. Your personal information can be removed from your mailbox (in the form of tax notices, financial account statements and other bills) and you may never realize they are missing. Your information can be removed from your employer's files, either secretly or with the help of an inside accomplice, or from hospital records, usually with the help of an inside accomplice.

Your personal information can be removed from your financial lender's or your landlord's files. It can be purchased (or found free) in online (or offline) databases or collected from "cloned" Web sites -- sites recreated from legitimate merchant Web sites in order capture your personal and credit card information when you place an order. It can be collected from "cloned" chat rooms that include links to outside Web sites that offer services or products but are not real merchants, simply gatherers of your information which criminals will use to make purchases elsewhere. It can be stolen from a merchant database through computer hacking, or stolen by hacking into commercial Web sites or your personal computer and using software to mirror keystrokes to capture credit card account information

Basically, anywhere you've provided that information can be a target. Often employees who have access to the information are bribed or offered a cut of the profits in exchange for personal information about others. The more sophisticated the perpetrator, the more money is stolen and the more people scammed. Clerks can even put "skimmers" on credit card machines that will record credit card information for later use. Temporary employees seem to be more frequently involved in identity theft scandals than permanent employees, simply because fewer background checks are made on them.

What about all of the publicly available information someone can access about you? Public records are open for public inspection and include driver's license information, real estate records, business records, vehicle information, certain types of professional certifications and licensing information and any other types of data collected by public entities. Non-government information that is publicly available -- in newspaper classified advertisements and reports, and in phone book entries -- can be accessed. Open-source information can also be found about you in periodicals and on Web sites.

While some information about your life is pretty well protected, such as medical, financial and academic records, other identifying information (social security number, home address, etc) is not so protected. One scary statistic: According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), in 2000 19 percent (as opposed to 13 percent in 2001) of all victims of identity theft had a personal relationship with the thief; 10 percent of the thieves were family members.

How to Protect Yourself

Protecting yourself from identity theft takes proactive effort. You can't simply assume it's not going to happen to you and go on about your life — it can happen to anyone. It even happens to celebrities. Oprah Winfrey, Tiger Woods, Robert De Niro and Martha Stewart have had their identities stolen. While you can't totally protect yourself from these thieves, you can make yourself less attractive as a victim by making it more difficult for them to access your information. Here are some things you can do to protect yourself:

DON'T give out your Social Security number unless it is absolutely necessary. Many companies collect more information than they really need. Make sure that it's something they require and make sure they'll protect your privacy.

DESTROY unwanted credit card offers. Rip, shred, or burn the pre-approved offers that come almost daily.

DON'T put any other information besides your name and address on your checks, and keep a close watch on your checkbook both when you're writing checks and when it is lying around. Someone can memorize your name, address and phone number during the short time it takes you to write a check.

SHRED (cross-cut) any sensitive documents before throwing them in the trash. This may seem like an extreme measure, but dumpster diving happens all the time and turns up a lot more personal information than you may realize.

DON'T carry your Social Security card, passport or birth certificate in your wallet or purse. Carry only the credit cards that are absolutely necessary. Photocopy everything in your wallet to make canceling things easier if the wallet is stolen.

REVIEW your credit report every year to make sure there are no new credit cards or other accounts issued (to someone other than you) and no inquiries by people you haven't initiated business with.

NEVER give out personal information on the phone to someone you don't know who initiated the call. Scam artists often phone unsuspecting victims pretending to represent their financial services company and requesting information, usually to "update records" or sell a

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Identity theft

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product. Get the name, phone number and address of the caller, then call the number printed on your statements.

REVIEW monthly credit card statements to make sure there are no charges that aren't yours. Also, make sure you *receive* a monthly statement. If it is late, call the credit card company. Someone may have turned in a change-of-address form so they could continue purchases on your credit card without you noticing.

DON'T mail bills or documents that contain personal data (like tax forms or checks) from your personal mail box. Take them directly to the post office or an official postal service mailbox. It's too easy for someone to take mail out of your mailbox on the street. They can dip your checks in special chemicals to remove the ink and then rewrite them to themselves!

If you're ever denied credit, **FIND OUT WHY**, especially if you haven't reviewed your credit report lately. This may be the first indication that someone has stolen your identity and is racking up charges in your name.

REACT QUICKLY if a creditor or merchant calls you about charges you didn't make. This too may be the first tip that someone has stolen your identity. Get as much information as you can and investigate immediately.

GUARD deposit slips as closely as you do checks. Not only do they have your personal information printed on them, but they can also be used to withdraw money. All a thief has to do is write a bad check, deposit it into your account and use the "less cash received" line to withdraw your money.

What to do in the event of identity theft

What if you get a phone call from a creditor, a visit from the police, or discover in your credit report that your identity has been stolen? **First,** report the crime to police and get a copy of the police report or case number. Most credit card companies, banks and others will ask you for it to ensure a crime has actually occurred.

Then **immediately contact your credit card issuers**, close existing accounts and get replacement cards with new account numbers. Request the accounts reflect they were "closed at consumer's request" for credit report purposes. Follow up your phone calls with letters to the credit card companies summarizing your request in writing.

Close accounts the thief opened in your name. If you open new accounts yourself, request passwords on those accounts, and make sure the password is not obvious to others. Your mother's maiden name or the last four digits of your social security number are too obvious.

Next, **call the fraud units of the three credit reporting bureaus** listed at right to report the theft of your credit cards and/or numbers. Ask that your accounts be flagged with a "fraud alert," which will stop anyone from setting up new accounts in your name without the creditor calling you. Verify this with the credit bureau representative and give them a number at which you can be reached. You won't be able to get "instant credit" at department stores but this flag, known as a "victim's statement," is the best way to prevent unauthorized accounts.

Who to call

Equifax Consumer Fraud Division - P.O. Box 105496; Atlanta, Georgia 30348-5496; Tel: (800) 997-2493; *www.equifax.com.*

Experian - P.O. Box 2104; Allen, Texas 75013-2104; Tel: (888) 397-3742; *www.experian.com.*

TransUnion Fraud Victim Assistance Department - P.O. Box 390; Springfield, PA 19064-0390; Tel: (800) 680-7289; *www.transunion.com.*

Keep a log of all conversations with authorities and financial entities, and keep copies of any documentation you give them. If your social security number has been used, notify the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General.

File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by contacting the FTC Consumer Response Center at 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW; Washington, DC 20580; Toll-free 877-FTC-HELP (382-4357); *www.ftc.gov/ftc/complaint.htm.* The FTC is the federal clearinghouse for complaints by victims of identity theft. The FTC does not have the authority to bring criminal cases, but it does assist victims by providing information to help resolve the financial and other problems resulting from identity theft. The FTC can refer victim complaints to other government agencies and private organizations for further action.

Identity theft is a crime that affects millions of people annually, causing millions of dollars in lost wages and time, often taking up to three years to resolve. As your OPSEC officer the last thing I want anyone on the SSC Charleston team to deal with is a messy identity theft problem.

Follow this advice and for more training, there is a course offered on Navy Knowledge Online. Stay vigilant and if you ever need any assistance please do not hesitate to call me at (843) 218-3983.

- Lt. Brian Phillips

Record keeping and retention

From the SSC Charleston Legal Office

Do you know you have a duty to keep "records?"

The concept of "federal records" is defined by statute as "all books, papers, maps, photographs, machine readable materials or other documentary materials -- regardless of physical form or characteristics -- made or received by an agency of the United States government under federal law or in connection with the transaction of public business and preserved or appropriated for preservation by that agency or its legitimate successor as evidence of the organization, functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations or other activities of the government or because of the informational value of data in them."

As seen from the definition of a "federal record," all SSC Charleston employees create records which they may be legally obligated to maintain.

Federal employees have a duty to preserve records, including e-mails and "soft" documents that relate to the performance of their duties. SECNAV M-5210.1 of December 2005 contains a table that specifies how long various types of records should be maintained. Frequently, when litigation is likely, legal office personnel ask employees to search and preserve various types of documents, including e-mail or other electronic records. The Department of the Navy and its employees are legally and ethically required to take immediate steps to make certain that all paper and electronic records which could conceivably be relevant to litigation or prospective litigation are maintained. We refer to this request as a "Litigation Hold" notice since it advises that litigation exists, or is foreseeable, and a duty to preserve records is present.

This responsibility is one which the courts take very seriously, and the loss of records may be construed against the party who lost or cannot locate them. Failure to safeguard and produce records can result in significant sanctions against both the Navy, and possibly individual employees.

Navy attorneys are required to take active, thorough and aggressive action to ensure that the Navy meets its legal responsibility to locate, retain and produce all documents or things that may be relevant to an actual or reasonably foreseeable case. Traditionally, this has meant locating, retaining and producing paper documents. However in today's environment, we communicate and retain records electronically with computers, BlackBerry devices and handheld data assistants. The use of computer systems and our NMCI computer network make electronic discovery issues significantly more complex. Since there is often no "hard" paper file, we will need your help in meeting the requirements to safeguard and make available the electronic "files."

Please note that e-mail backups performed by system administrators are often not adequate for litigation. Employees must retain pertinent records themselves.

While there are well-developed systems for paper records, the infrastructure for the management of electronic records is poorly developed, threatening accountability and good governance. If litigation is a possibility, we must take steps to make certain that all electronic documents, including backup tapes, disks, etc., which may be relevant in any way are identified, retained and produced in response to discovery requests or court orders.

The challenge of this electronic discovery lies not only in the volume and format of discoverable information with the potential for mismanagement and destruction of data (spoilation), but also in the ability to determine the extent of the electronic records (who has the material and where is the material that is relevant.) This complexity exposes both the Navy and its employee to significant sanctions, if proper safeguarding does not occur.

Document discovery is one of the most critical parts of preparing a case for trial. Cases are frequently won or lost based on the documents. Indeed, in extreme cases, this could mean the difference between the command succeeding or failing in the litigation.

Please recognize the significance of the "records" you receive/create, and retain them appropriately. For additional information, please call the legal office at (843) 218-4029 or DSN 588-4029.

Dressing professionally in the workplace

From Detra Armstrong, Code 0282

Spring is in the air; what better time to examine our wardrobe and see what necessary changes we need to make. Fashion is a great feeling, and so is the fresh aroma of spring.

Looking professional should be important to everyone in the workforce. Let's take time and start fresh with our fashion decisions.

Seasons change four times a year. We should do the same. When you look good, you feel good. Work ethics are even better. Looking professional says a lot about you as an individual. Are we dressing to impress? First of all, let's look professional for ourselves. The appreciation starts with you. Your style of dress says a lot about you.

Be organized with your wardrobe. Know what you are going to wear the night before. It wouldn't hurt to try your outfit on in advance, or at least visualize yourself in it. This can save you so much time and avoid guess work in the morning. You can sleep with peace of mind knowing you won't have to struggle with this decision in the morning.

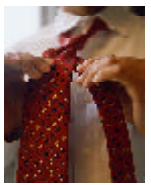
First, one must organize his or her closet. Know what you have in your closet and what pieces you have to work with. We all have organization skills that we use daily at work. Organization should follow you. If you are organized at home, you should be organized at work.

Hang all shirts/blouses together. Hang all skirts together grouped by length. Hang all dresses together. Hang all slacks together. Suits that you know you will wear together, you should hang together. Your shoes should be organized so that you can easily choose the right color to coordinate with your outfit.

Once your closet is organized it will be much easier to pick out your fashions. Having an organized closet is a MUST for today's professional. Some people think they don't have the best taste in clothing. Let's embrace change. We have been embracing change for years in our jobs. Look around your office/building. There are probably at least three to four people that you think look professional daily. Watch how they coordinate their fashions. You can do the same.

You do not have to spend a lot of money to look great at work, but you have to purchase the right items. If you are just starting out in the workforce, set a goal to purchase eight suits in the colors of black, brown, gray, beige, cream, Navy blue and red, with coordinating blouses. These colors work well together. Now you have enough suits to wear every day for week one. This is great for the worker who prefers suits. The second week of work wear the remaining three suits, then coordinate the rest of the week.

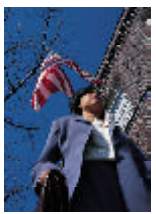
This really works. You will wear the skirt or slacks with the best matched jacket. If you choose to wear the skirt and or slacks with a blouse only, this will look nice as well. Remember, the smart shopper knows what looks are becoming in the office. No one will notice that you are interchanging or mixing and matching; it will look as if your wardrobe is very large because you are a smart shopper.



Women can set another goal: Purchase three dresses. Dresses can be worn alone or with the jackets of the previously purchased suits.

Men, you really have it easy. If you set a goal of having at least 10 ties, you can coordinate with various shirts, even if you choose to wear a white shirt every day. There are a variety of styles and many colors available to you. Make sure your ties are visible when you enter your closet.

When you look good, you feel good. I see a runway with SSC Charleston employees walking swiftly in style. When you look this wonderful Monday through Thursday, it is sometimes hard to dress down on Fridays. Dress down Friday means taking your fashion sense down a notch. We still have a job but go to work just a bit casual and always neat. We should still look appropriate. We never know who we might see. I have seen two U.S. Presidents who visited the naval base in the last 20 years. It was a great feeling to wave with such joy. I had visualized what I was going to wear the night before. Many times, appearances do matter.



Remember, your style of dress is the investment you as a worker put into yourself. So here's to a new season of fashions with the best of styles fashioned by all.

White House photo by Paul Morse

The National Museum of the Marine Corps at its opening in November.

SSC Charleston ensures Marine museum secure

Some SSC Charleston employees were well acquainted with the new National Museum of the Marine Corps before it opened last November at a 135-acre site near the U.S. Marine Corps Base at Quantico, Va.

Code 74 designed, procured and installed an electronic security system for the museum. The beginning project totaled approximately $862,000, and follow-on work has totaled more than $640,000.

The new museum, the centerpiece of the Marine Corps Heritage Center, includes aircraft, tanks, landing vehicles and artillery pieces. The collections held in trust at the museum document more than 230 years of Marine Corps history. The more than 60,000 uniforms, weapons, vehicles, medals, flags, aircraft, works of art and other artifacts in the museum's collections trace the history of the Marine Corps from 1775 to the present.

Unusual items in the care of the museum include a coat worn by Marine Captain Levi Twiggs during his service in the Indian Wars, a presentation baton given to John Philip Sousa on his departure as director of the Marine Corps Band, and an Oscar awarded to the Marine Corps for the World War II documentary "Tarawa." Perhaps the most symbolically important artifact in the Museum's collection is the second American flag raised over Iwo Jima's Mount Suribachi.

Thanks to the efforts of SSC Charleston Code 74 personnel, these treasures will be secure for generations to come.

Scientists to Sea

Continued from page 36

In the early afternoon they watched a countermeasures wash down and toured the supply areas. After supper in the Chief's Mess, they toured the engineering spaces.

The last day on board started with breakfast in the wardroom, followed by another navigation briefing and RHIB launches. After small boat preplanned response drills to repel small craft attack, *Laboon* returned to the pier, with STS members watching from the bridge.

Shipboard life

From Brian Edwards' trip log

Racks: They are called "coffin racks" for a reason: they are small. I could touch the bottom of the rack above me with my elbow by rolling my shoulder forward an inch or two. They seem like they would make you claustrophobic but once you were in, which is a bit of a trick, they were great. In fact in rough seas they were very comforting as you were rocked to sleep. They come with a curtain for privacy and straps to make sure you don't roll out.

Chow: The food was excellent. There was typically a selection of two meats, salad, fruit and dessert. Everyone eats the same food, the only difference is the presentation. One STS member thought he'd gained weight on the trip. There is breakfast, dinner, supper, and mid-rats (midnight rations), traditionally at 2330. You won't go hungry.

We experienced all the eating arrangements on the ship, from the mess decks where enlisted E6 and below eat, to the chief's mess to the wardroom. On the mess decks you carry a tray and they serve your food, then you find a seat, fix your drink and clean up after yourself. The chief petty officer's mess is a separate room (called "the goat locker") where chiefs eat. It is also buffet-style; you serve yourself, find a seat and fix your drink. Junior Sailors clean up.

Officers eat in the wardroom. Upon entering you ask permission of the senior officer at the table to join the meal. After filling out a menu card your food is served as in a nice restaurant, hands-down the best meal presentation on the ship. The service was excellent and the atmosphere somewhat relaxed and very friendly.

Rough seas: STS members were hoping to experience rough seas and we got our wish. As the ship headed to Cape Hatteras the waters were rough from Tuesday afternoon until Thursday morning, with waves crashing over the bow and spray hitting the bridge windows at times. In engineering, I watched the clinometer measure 17 degrees roll from vertical, with estimated wave height of eight to 12 feet. Some Sailors got sick but not STS members, thanks to motion sickness medication. Drinks were spilled due to rolls, and binders and unsecured objects were tossed off shelves and tables. The CO, XO and officers steered the ship to ensure that the ride was as comfortable as possible.

Moving up ...

Congratulations to the following recently promoted employees:

Gerry Allen, Code 75, Charleston, S.C.
Mark Auza, Code 821, Suffolk, Va.
Reco Baker, Code 721, Charleston
Amy Bare, Code 0E, Charleston
Jamin Barnett, Code 541, Charleston
Pamela Bell, Code 09W2, Charleston
Aaron Blair, Code 724, Charleston
Kendra Boykin, Code 742, Charleston
Adolphus Burrow, Code 726, Charleston
Philip Butler, Code 632, Charleston
Xavier Calderon, Code 822, Suffolk, Va.
Jerry Caldwell, Code 09A22, Charleston
Kelly Cannady, Code 025, Charleston
Darryl Carter, Code 841, Mayport, Fla.
David Cassidy, Code 753, Charleston
Adrian Cheagle, Code 668, Charleston
Ryan Collier, Code 662, Charleston
Randy Corbitt, Code 663, Charleston
John Coville, Code 743, Charleston
Diane Crosby, Code 0281, Charleston
Donna Dotson, Code 72, Charleston
Antoine Etchene, Code 821, Suffolk, Va.
Shawn Evans, Code 535, Charleston
Derrick Fleming, Code 821, Suffolk, Va.
Kristopher Fogle, Code 632, Charleston
Gwendolyn Gay, Code 831, Portsmouth, Va.
Carolyn Gokey, Code 0232, Charleston
Ryan Gunst, Code 633, Charleston
Melisse Henry, Code 753, Charleston
Jesse Howard, Code 63D, Charleston
Daniel Hursey, Code 742, Charleston
Gertrude Johnson, Code 523, Charleston
Ken Johnson, Code 0125, Charleston
Patrick Johnson, Code 744, Charleston
Jared Judy, Code 822, Suffolk, Va.
Ryan Krcelic, Code 523, Charleston
Dean L'Hoste, Code 842, Portsmouth, Va.
Anderson Lambert, Code 541, Charleston
Paula Laquaglia, Code 025, Charleston,
Bradley Larson, Code 522, Charleston
Kerry Loyd, Code 50E, Charleston
Christine Madden, Code 543, Charleston
Benjamin Maiden, Code 542, Charleston
Robert Meddick, Code 0AL, Charleston
Sharon Morgan, Code 57, Naples, Italy
Marilyn Morrow, Code 0125, Charleston
Donald Neal, Code 631, Charleston
Joseph O'Connell, Code 661, Charleston
Emmanuel Oliver, Code 616, Charleston
Xuong On, Code 541, Charleston
Jozen Orbase, Code 724, Charleston
Brooks Osteen, Code 615, Charleston
Christopher Outlaw, Code 762, Washington, D.C.
Michael Payne, Code 663, Charleston
David Peterson, Code 70E, Charleston
Cheryll Porter, Code 667, Charleston
Crystal Potts, Code 02A, Charleston
Tanzeel Rana, Code 662, Charleston.
James Ratcliff, Code 617, Charleston
Nicholas Ringwall, Code 744, Charleston
Petra Robinson, Code 615, Charleston
Glen Rose, Code 522, Charleston
Albert Sabet, Code 744, Charleston
Jason Sellars, Code 542, Charleston
Francesco Smyth, Code 71, Charleston
Arliene Sports, Code 0A5, Charleston
Miroslav Stamenkovich, Code 832, Little Creek, Va.
Latasha Stith, Code 822, Suffolk, Va.
Brian Tamburello, Code 822, Norfolk, Va.
Lukky Tchang, Code 09C2, Charleston
Brian Thomas, Code 744, Washington, DC
John Thomas, Code 542, Charleston
Charles Turner, Code 0AE, Charleston
Harlen Wood Jr., Code 663, Charleston
Jaime Wood, Code 533, Charleston

Moving on ...

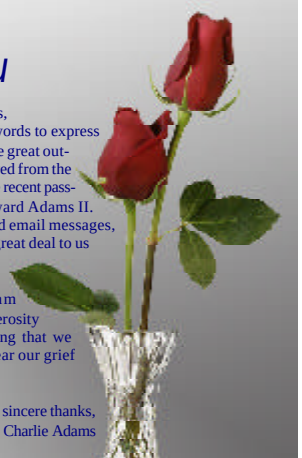
Fair winds and following seas to the SSC Charleston employees retiring recently:

Joe E. Beckham
Daniel T. Blackwell
Mary G. M. Brown
Kathy L. Deaton
Nancy E. Edson
Ronnie K. Hewitt
Sharon M. Keating
William K. Melcolm Jr.
Robert S. Moyer
Ronald E. Price
Marshall K. Rhodes
Warren W. Sapp
Sarah J. Sullivan
Nadine B. Wilson

In Memoriam

Frank Allen (Al) Nusom Jr.
1948-2007
Engineer, Code 533
Lieutenant Commander, USN (Ret.)

Thank you



Dear Friends and Coworkers,

It is difficult to find the words to express my family's gratitude for the great outpouring of support we received from the SSC Charleston family on the recent passing of our son, Charles Edward Adams II. The cards, letters, phone and email messages, prayers, and visits meant a great deal to us as we struggled with our heartbreaking loss.

Please know that I am touched deeply by your generosity and thoughtfulness. Knowing that we were not alone helped us bear our grief and sadness.

With sincere thanks,
Charlie Adams

HMS learns about C⁴ISR

More than 40 Hanahan Middle School (HMS) faculty and staff members spent March 12 getting to know the capabilities of their partner in education, SSC Charleston. The school visitors received an overview brief on SSC Charleston, and learned about human resources, satellite communications, air traffic control and systems engineering at SSC Charleston. They also toured the SATCOM lab and Air Traffic Control tower. The purpose of the visit was to foster a cooperative relationship with the school, illustrate the importance of math and science to middle school students, and highlight future career opportunities for students.At left, the visitors pose in the atrium of Bldg. 3147 with their host, Odette Foore, Code 70, far left.

Visiting Marine thanks SSC Charleston

SSC Charleston hosted Marine Lance Cpl. Justin Morris and his father, former submariner Todd Morris, for a brief and tour of the center March 7. The younger Morris recently returned from Iraq, where he is a communications expert. While home on leave awaiting training, Morris wanted to see who is responsible for providing his comms equipment, and the SSC Charleston team was more than willing to comply. After a brief by Dr. Stephen Jarrett, Chief Technologist, Code 70, the Morrises looked at up-armored Humvees which are being outfitted with C4I equipment by Code 60 personnel. After touring SSC Charleston, the Morrises and an SSC Charleston contingent toured Force Protection Inc., in Ladson. Pictured above with a Force Protection vehicle are, from left, Bob Miller, Code 613; Lt. Brian Phillips, Code 70; Todd Morris; Justin Morris; Erick Fry, Code 713; and Jarrett. The 19-year-old Morris thanked the SSC Charleston team for all they are doing to enable the warfighter. He will return to Iraq after training at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and Twenty-nine Palms, Calif.

U.S. Navy photo

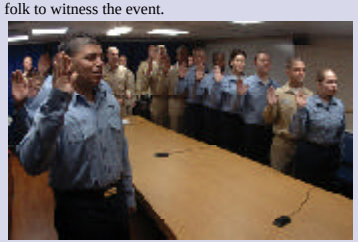
VTC lab facilitates reenlistment of astronomical proportions

NASA photo

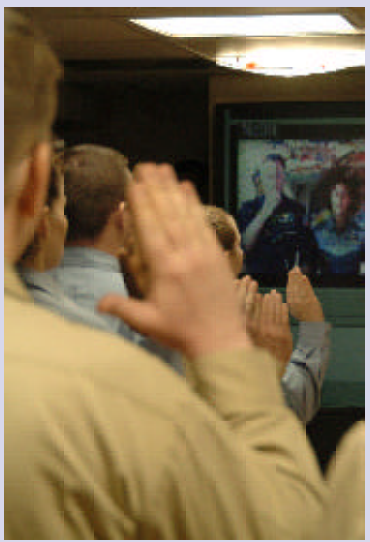
SSC Charleston's VTC lab personnel recently helped connect the first-ever reenlistment ceremony between a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier and the International Space Station (ISS).

At right, Astronauts Navy Capt. Michael Lopez-Alegria, ISS commander, and Flight Engineer Navy Cmdr. Suni Williams, orbiting 200 miles above earth, reenlist 16 Sailors aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier *USS Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) in January. The Sailors reenlisted for a total of 57 years. At the time *Eisenhower* and embarked Carrier Air Wing 7 were deployed in support of Maritime Security Operations (MSO).

SSC Charleston's VTC Lab supported *Eisenhower* and NASA Mission Control at Johnson Space Center. The VTC allowed *USSEisenhower* family members in Norfolk to witness the event.

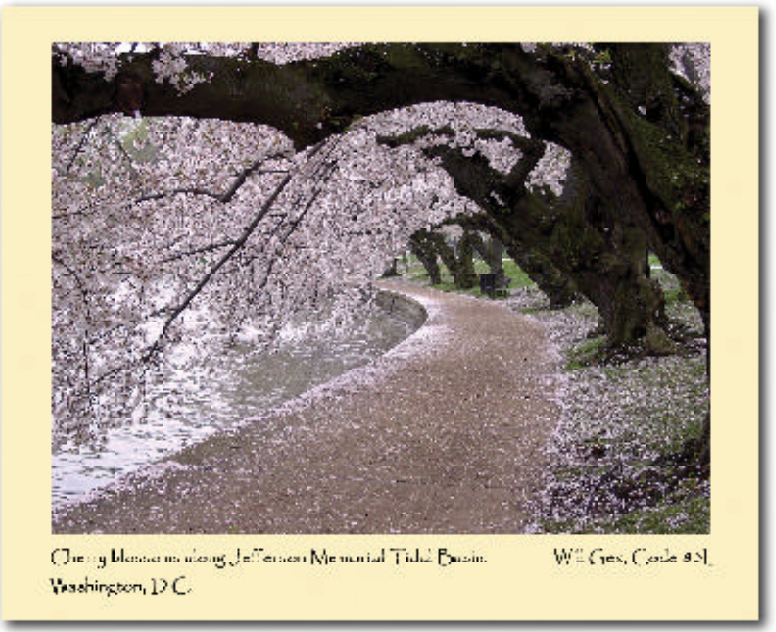


U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Miguel Angel Contreras



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Miguel Angel Contreras

And the winner is...



Cherry Blossoms along Jefferson Memorial Tidal Basin. Will Gex, Castle #31
Washington, D.C.

Send us *your* best shot

We are now soliciting photography submissions from SSC Charleston employees for *The Chronicle* summer issue photo contest.

The Employee Services Association will offer the winner a choice of a coffee cup, thermal mug, command coin, cookbook (if available) or $5 credit toward another logo item. MWR will offer a "buy one, get one free" lunch in the Cooper River Cafe to the winner. Judges are Command Photographer Harold Senn and Chronicle Editor Susan Piedfort. Send your best shot to *william.senn@navy.mil* or *susan.piedfort@navy.mil*, or drop your print by the photo lab or *Chronicle* office.

SSC Charleston's Bldg. 3146 is dedicated to Mikolajcik.
See story on page 10.